

# Investi GATORS



Ants in Our P.A.N.T.S.



BARNES & NOBLE  
EXCLUSIVE

INCLUDES  
COLORING POSTER

*New York Times*-Bestselling Author

**John Patrick Green**



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Ants in Our P.A.N.T.S.

:01

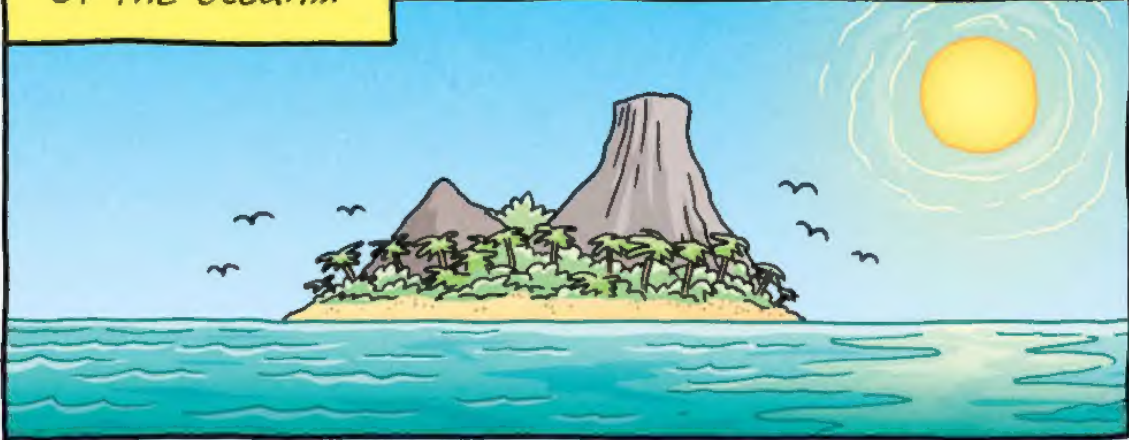
First Second





# Chapter 1

We join our heroes on a remote island in the middle of the ocean...



Have they found a supervillain's lair hidden in a dormant volcano? Or discovered a weapon of devastating power?

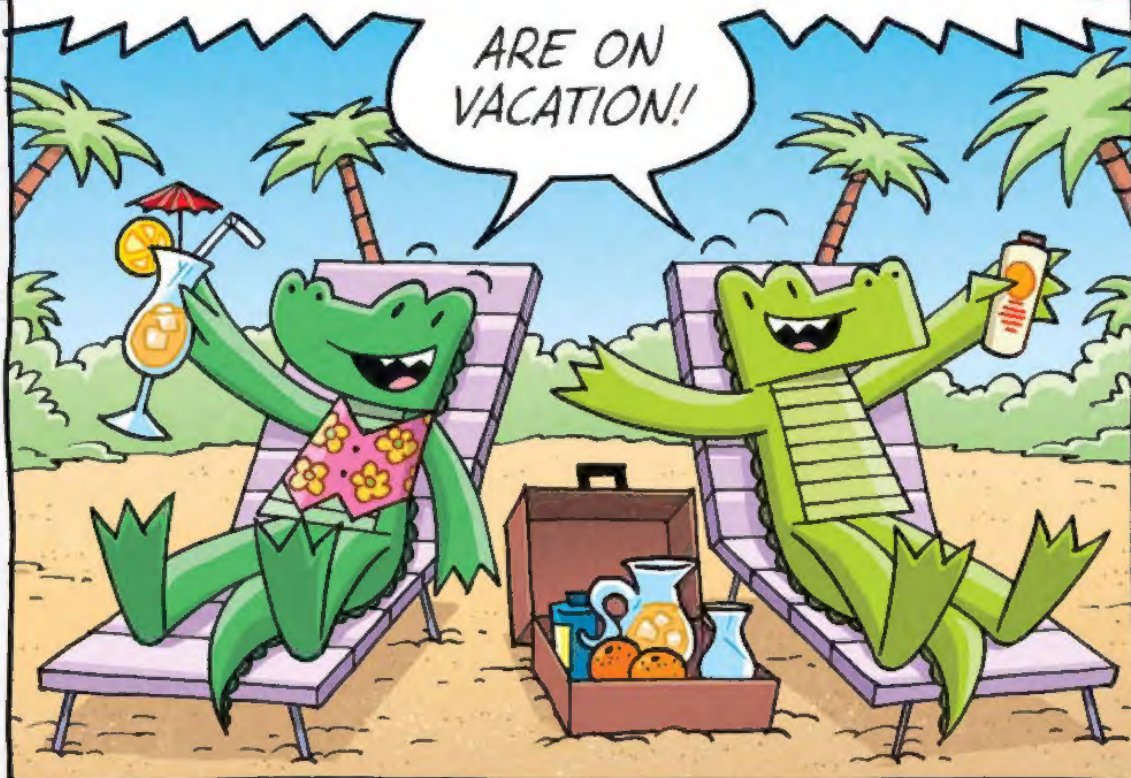


What would bring Mango and Brash to this tropical paradise?





# INVESTIGATORS





Still, I kinda wish we were here on an investigation.



That would  
make our  
vacation...



...an  
**INVESTIGATION.**

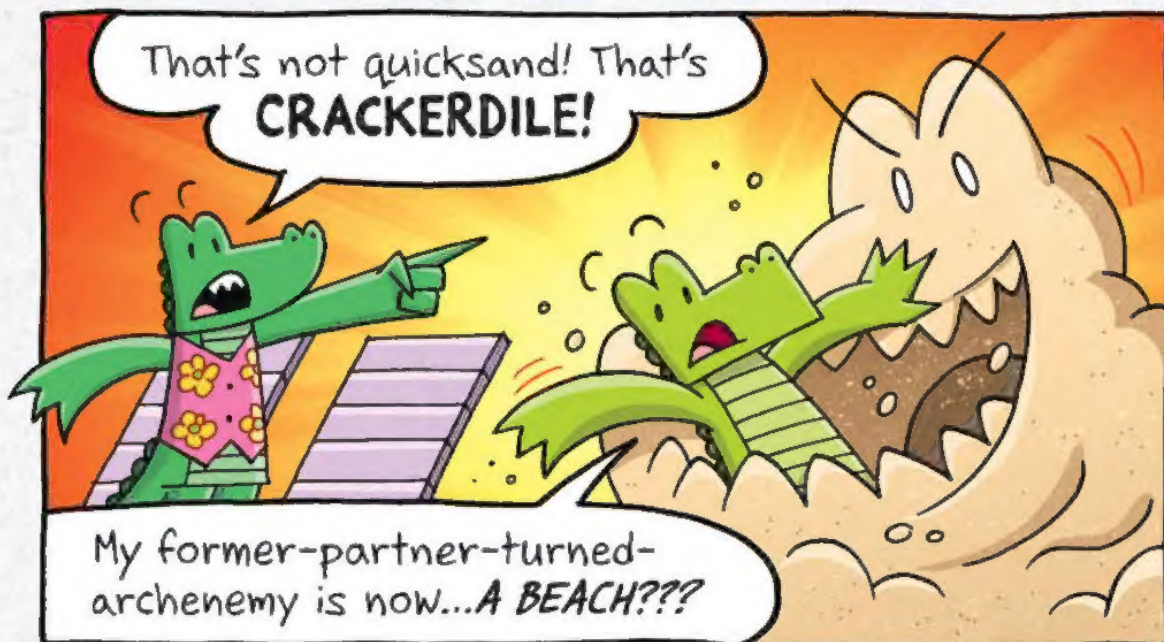
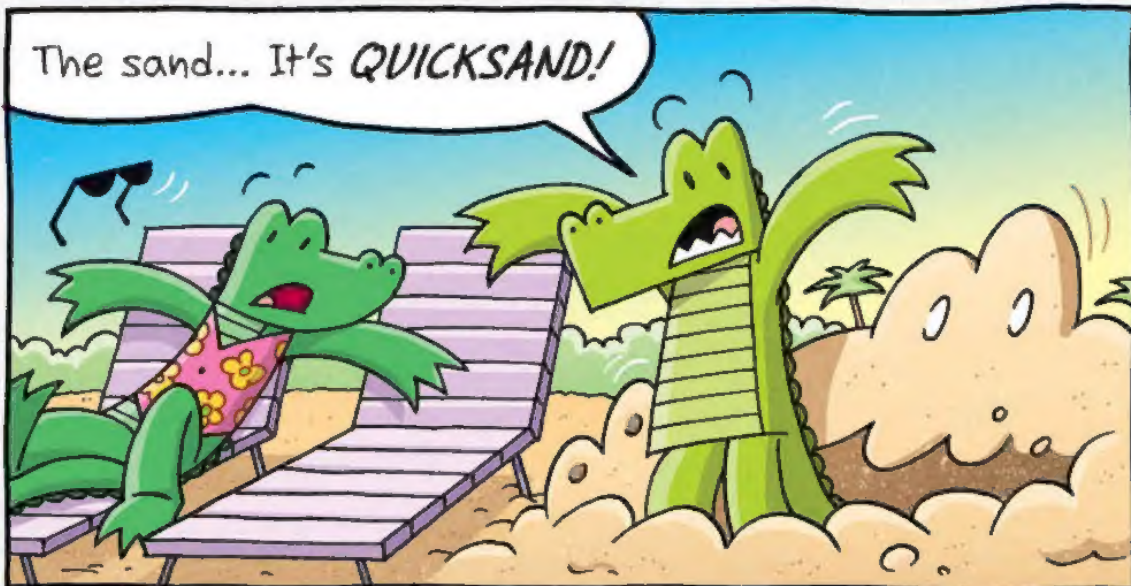


This might be hard to *swallow*,  
Brash, but you've gotta learn  
how to **relax**. Build a sandcastle  
or something.

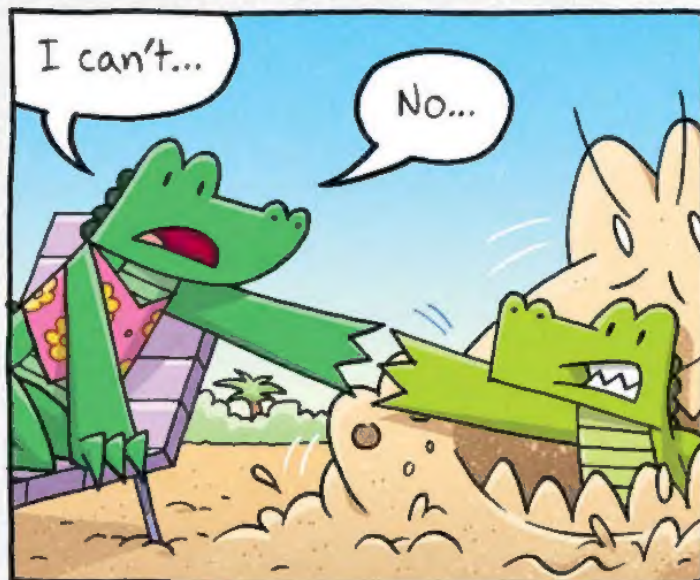


Sandcastle?  
I'm not a *child*,  
Mango.

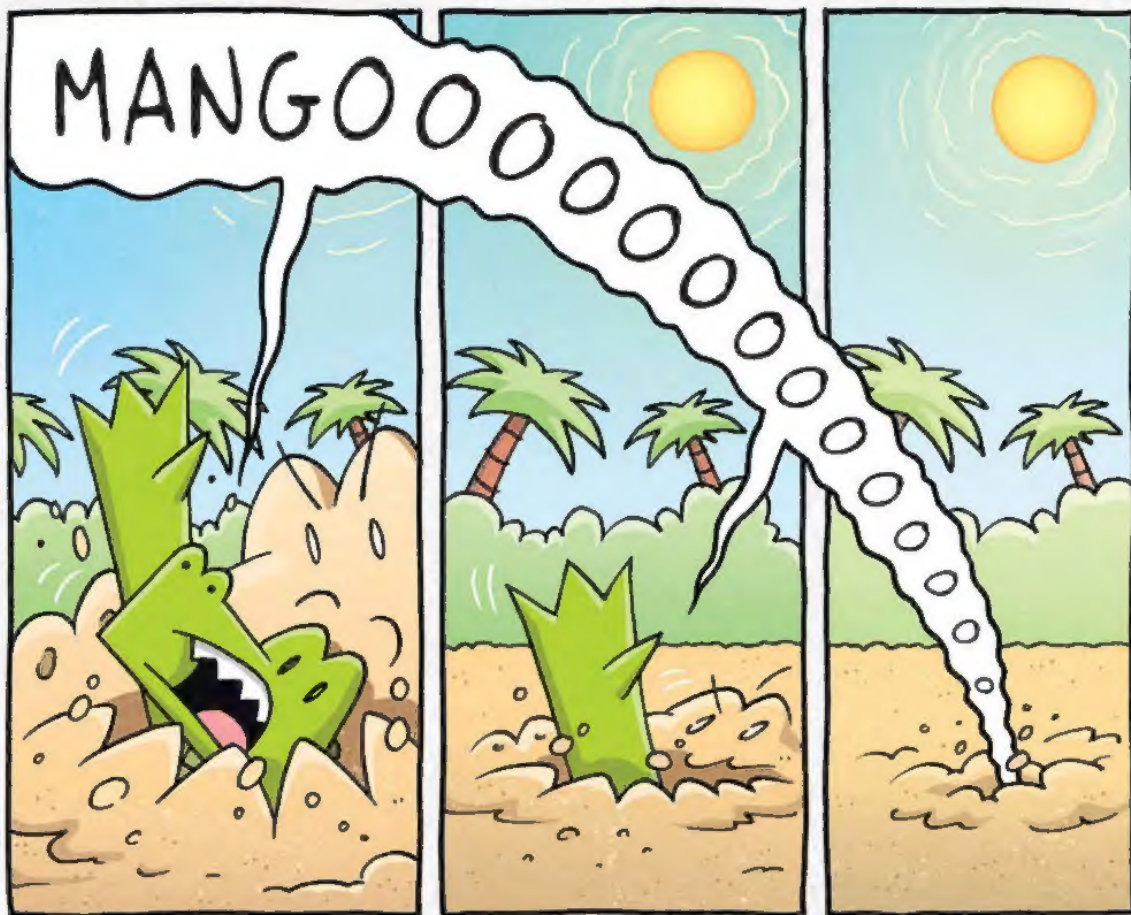
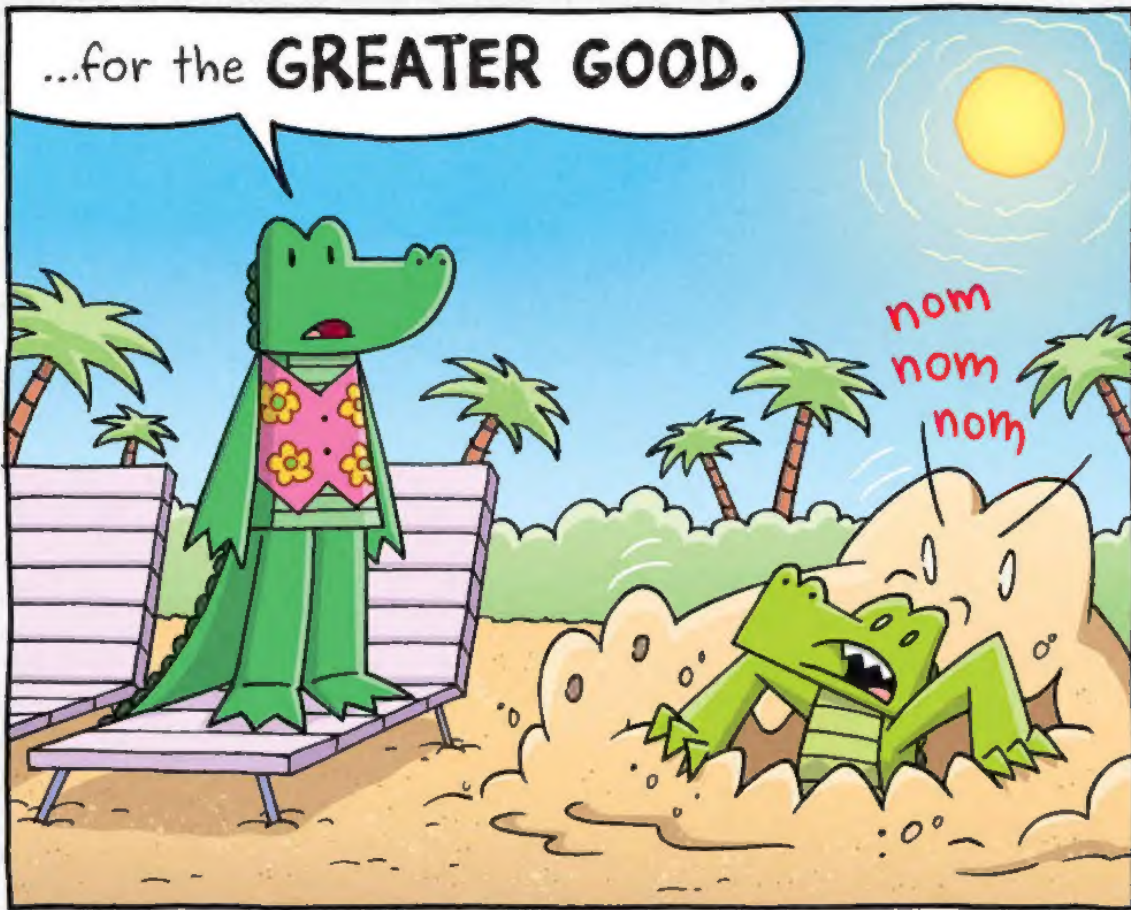




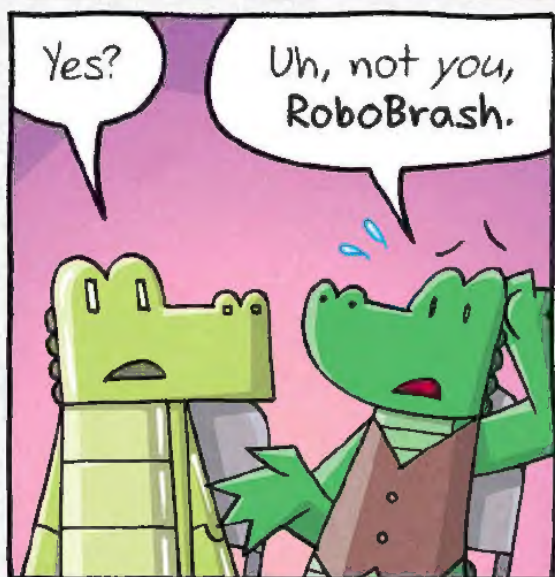
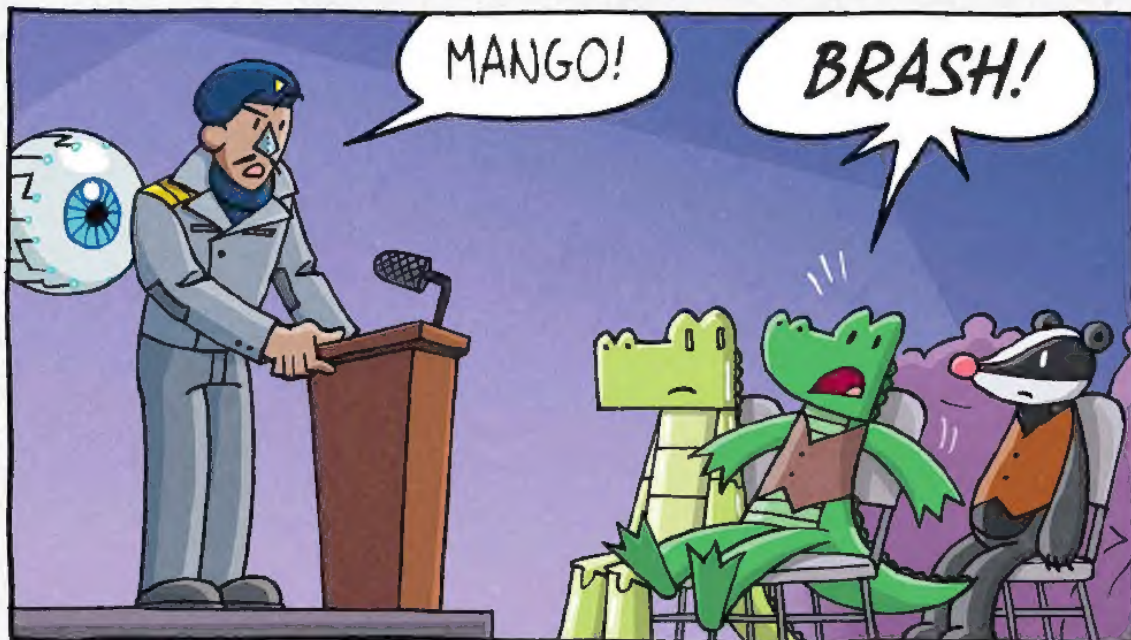




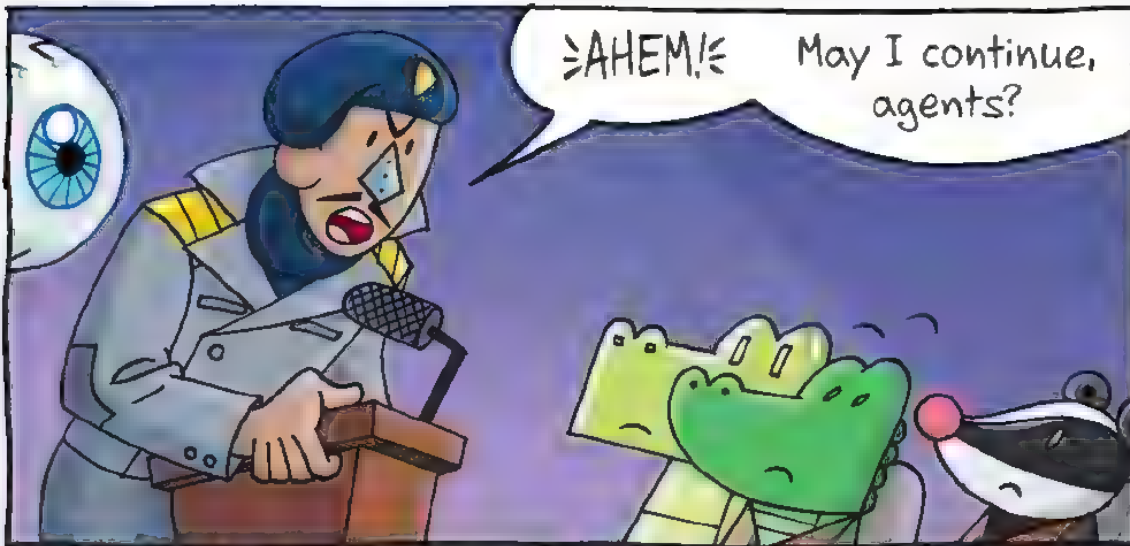












\*Special Undercover Investigation Teams



Had Mango NOT dumped concrete on Crackerdile—er, WAFFLEDile—far more people could be in the hospital than just Agent Brash. However, before Waffledile became a statue-dile, he left the city's residents petrified with fear by *this* message:

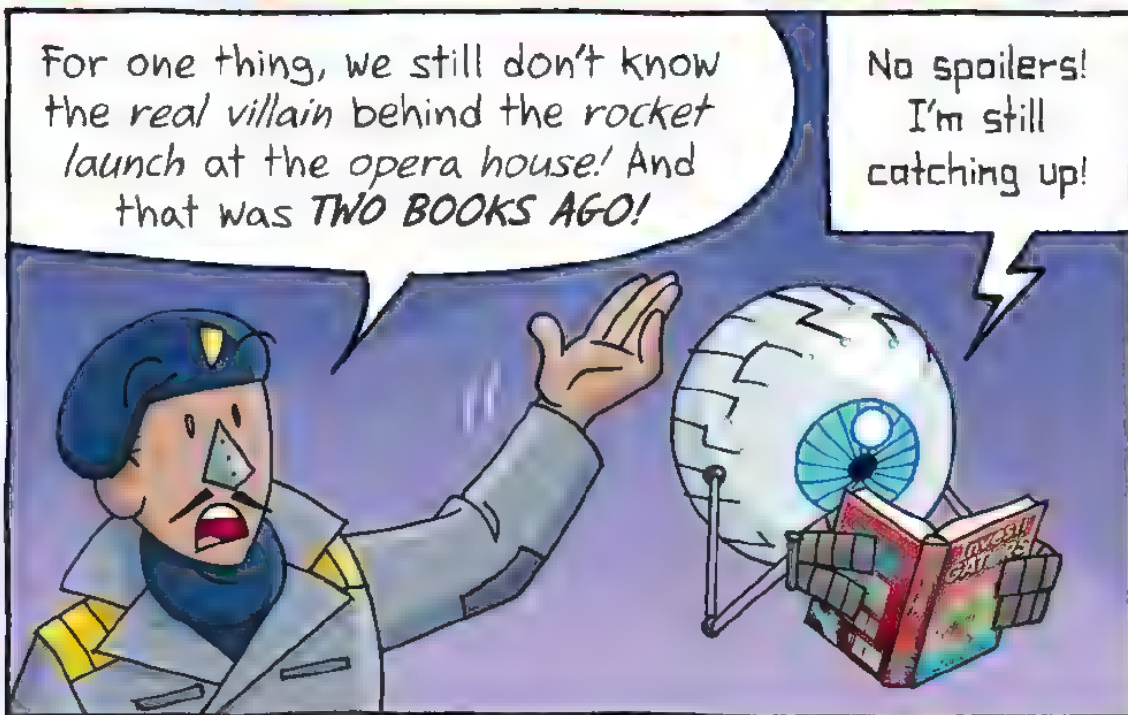


This is the perfect *recruitment* opportunity! *Every* villain will want to join my team if they see me on the news!

The very notion of villains teaming up *alarms* me. A thief such as Houdino, for instance, was formidable enough on his own. But if Waffledile's message inspires criminals like him to join forces, they'd be *unstoppable*!







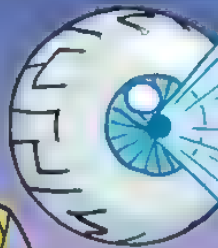


I remember that mission!  
We were undercover as  
orchestra musicians.

OF COURSE you  
remember. You have  
copies of the **REAL**  
Brash's memories  
stored in your  
brain.

This talk of villains teaming up has reminded me  
of a **heroic** team-up that inspired me as a child:

**Pop and Lock!**



Pop was a superhero who'd *pop* crime in its jaw, and  
Lock was his robot dog who'd *lock* the criminals up!





But even they couldn't *prevent* all the crime in the city.



That's where S.U.I.T.'s new initiative comes in: the **Anti-Crime Unit**.



Usually, you agents are called into action *after* a crime has occurred. But if villains of Crackerdile's caliber start *criming together*, then **AFTER** will be **TOO LATE**.



So, rather than *wait* for crimes to occur, the Anti-Crime Unit will catch these criminals **BEFORE** they can organize.



How will we do that?



Once we get wind of an evildoer's scheme to form a team, the Anti-Crime Unit will go undercover as fellow evildoers and follow this simple procedure: **PINPOINT** the possible perpetrator's position; **AVOID** blowing your cover; **NEUTRALIZE** any superweapons; **THWART** their villainous plan; and **STOP** them from getting away!

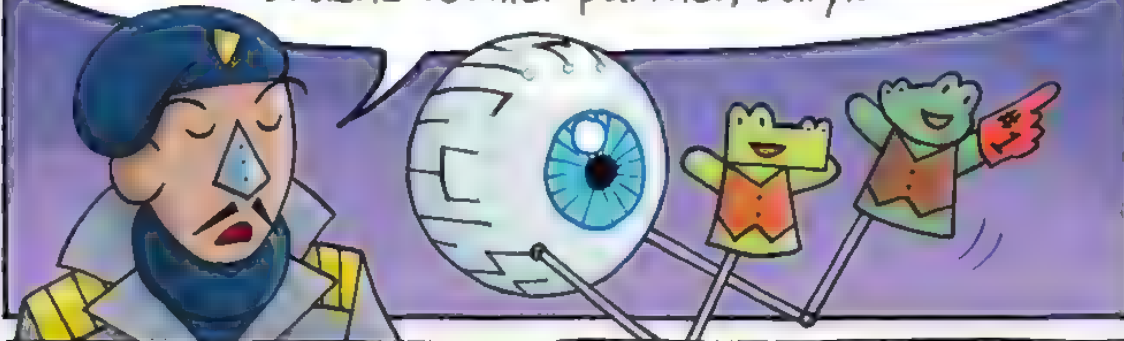


Mango and RoboBrash, as S.U.I.T.'s top agents, you will be the first team to try out P.A.N.T.S. in the field.





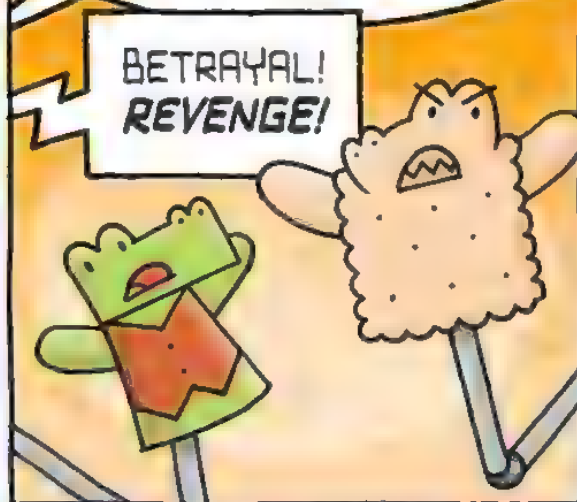
Now, I feel I must remind everyone of the harsh truth that good agents can turn *bad*. Before he was Waffledile, and before he was Crackerdile, S.V.I.T.'s **number one enemy** was its **number one agent**: Brash's former partner, Daryl.



It's impossible to tell if Daryl was secretly bad *before* he got turned into a radioactive saltine cracker...



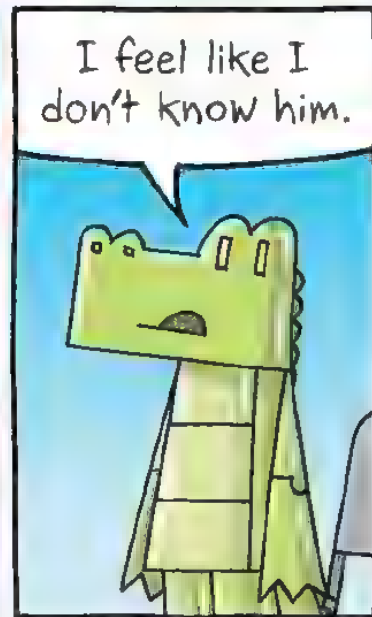
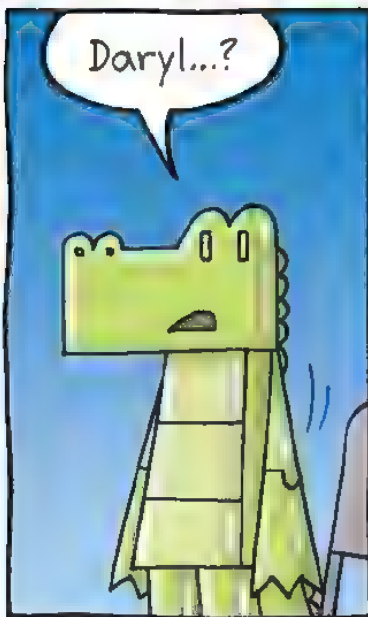
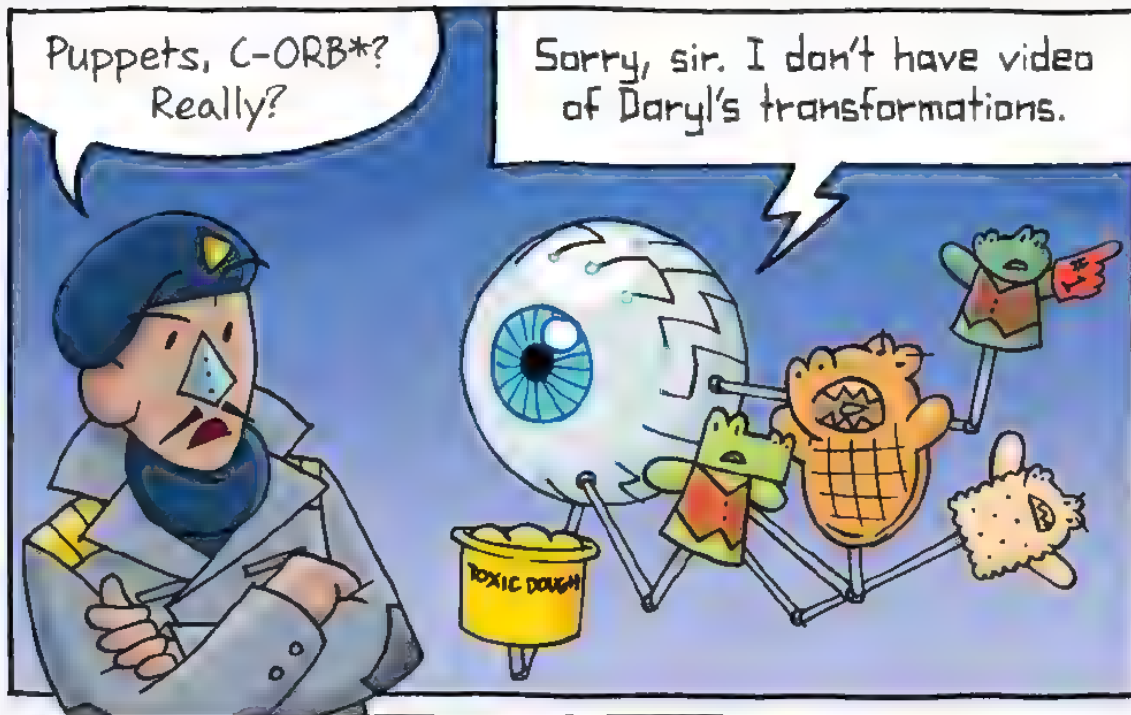
...or if his **evil ways** stem from feeling *betrayed* and obsessed with the desire for *revenge*.



The only one who may know is Agent Brash, but he still hasn't woken up after nearly being *DIGESTED* by waffle-Daryl!

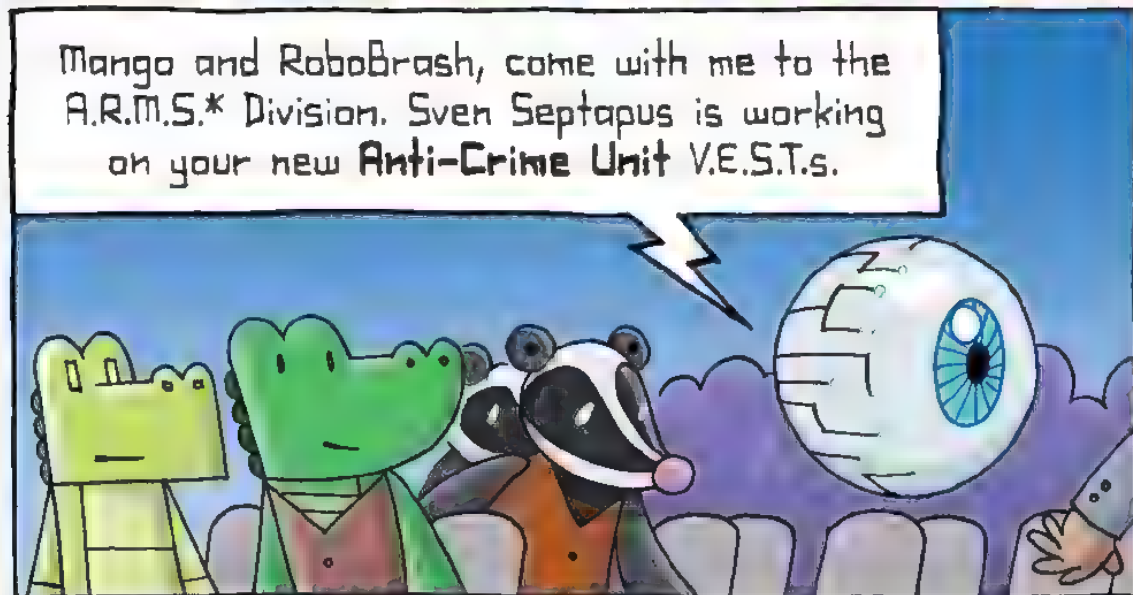






\*Computerized Ocular Remote Butler





\*Apparel Research and Manufacturing...by Sven!

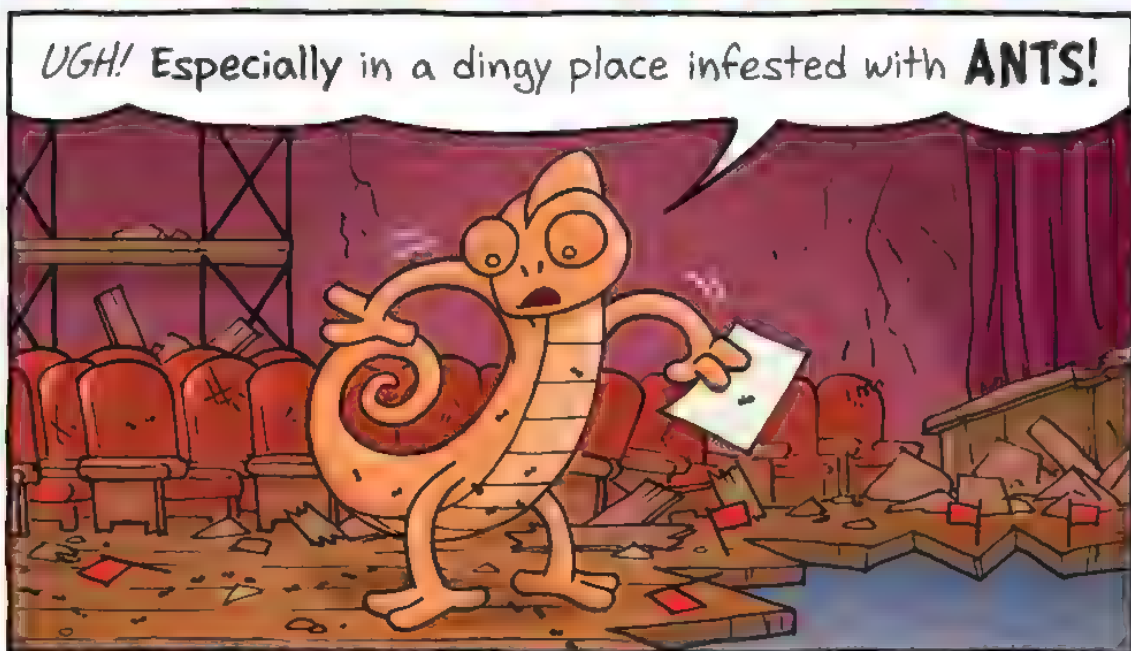
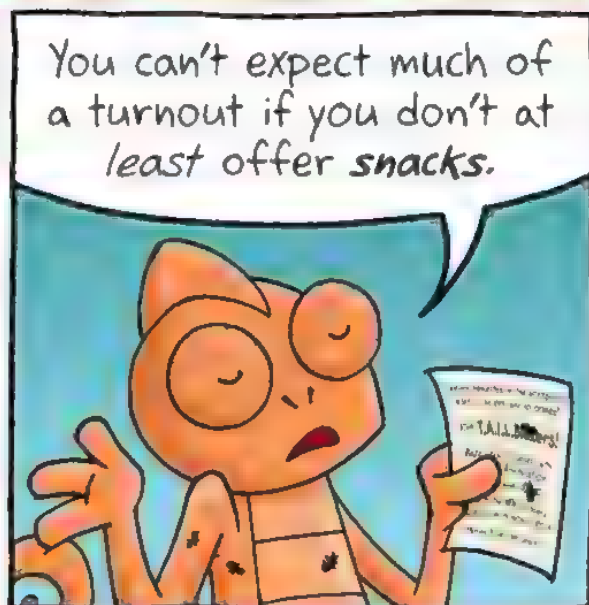
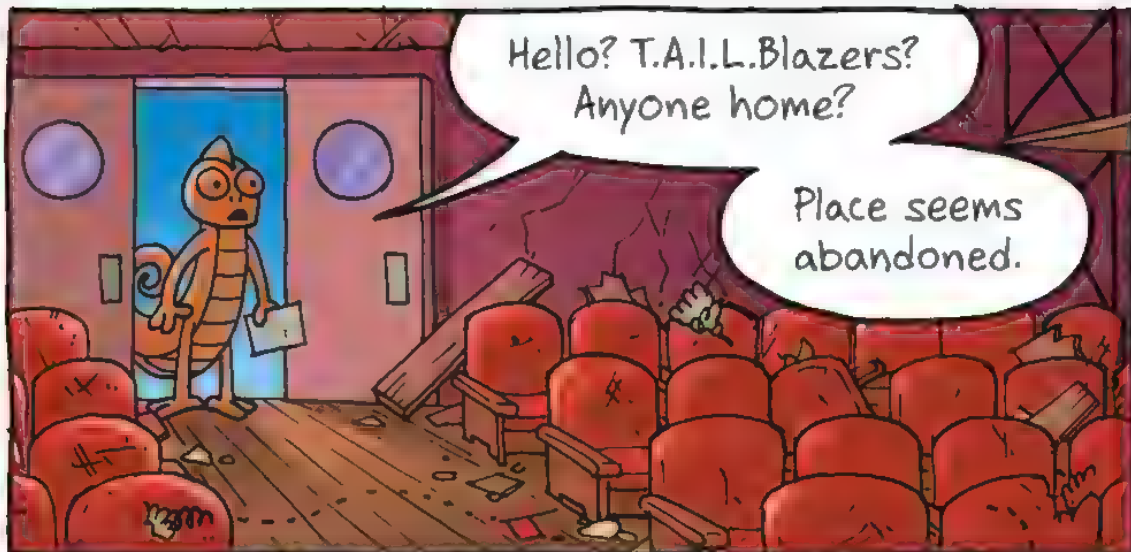


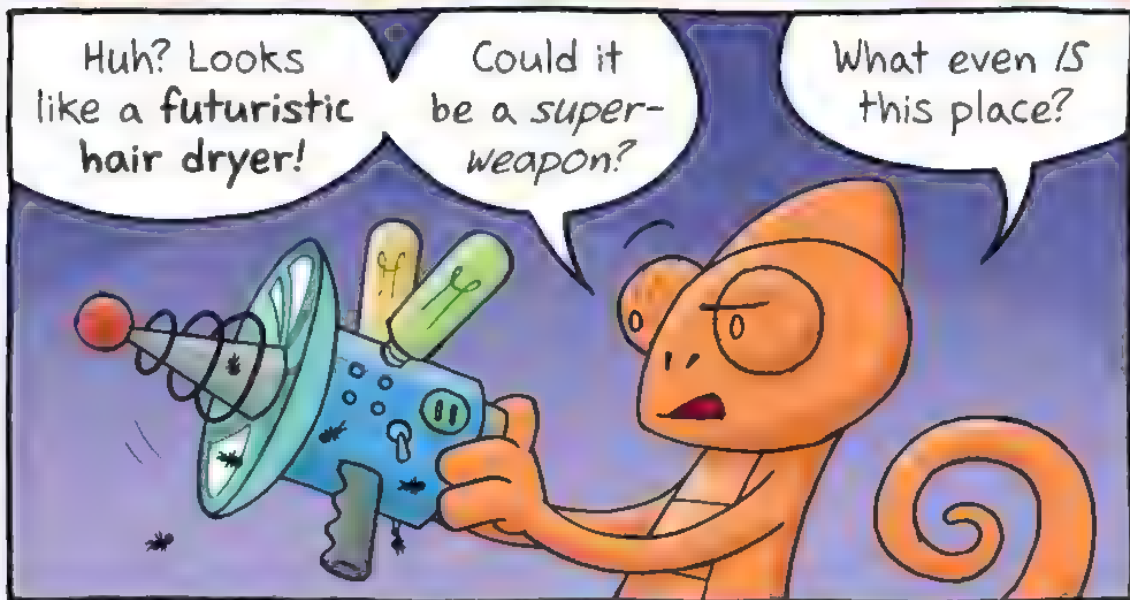
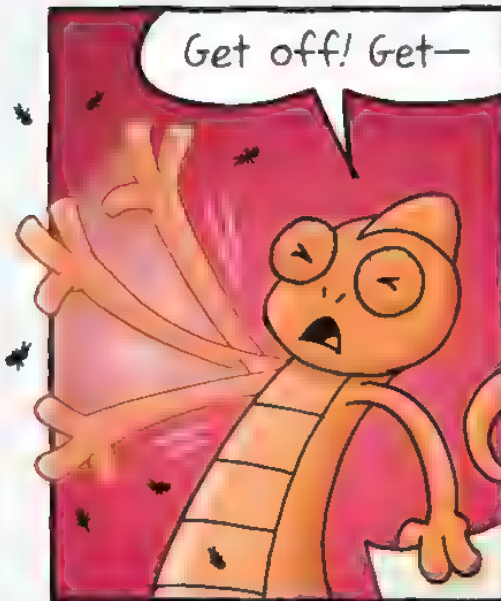


## Chapter 2





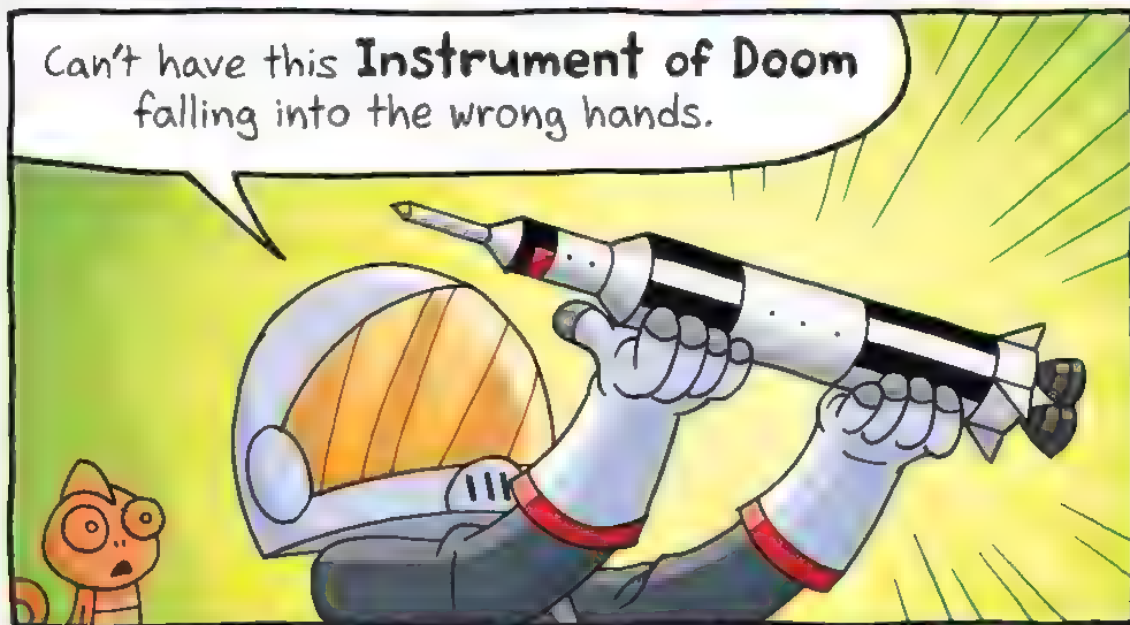
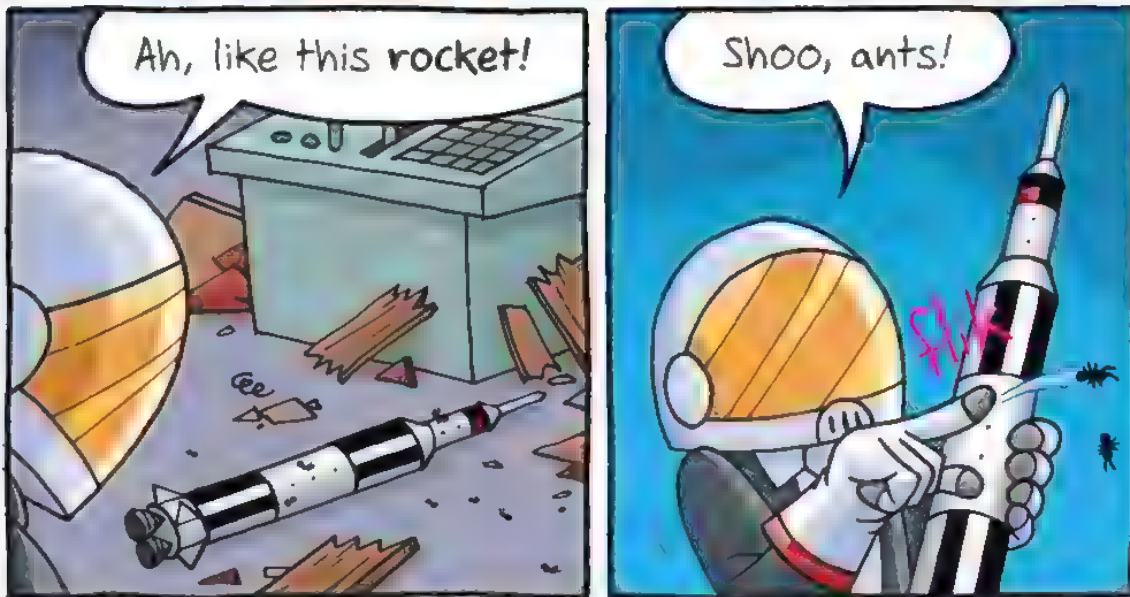






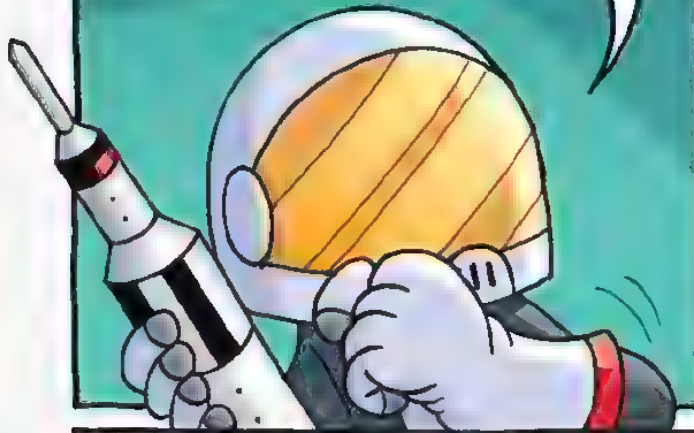


Darn *ants* kept gumming up the controls!





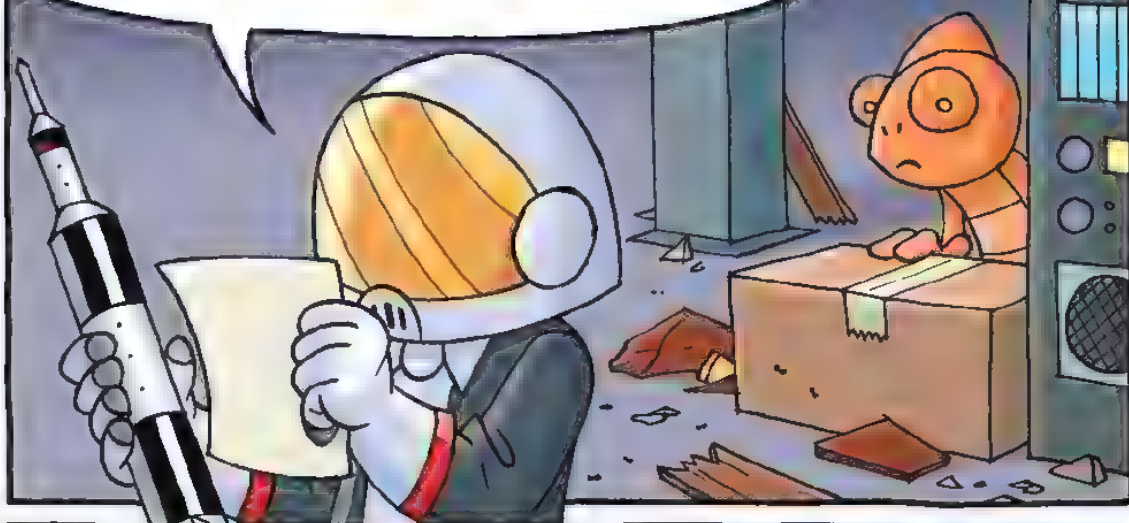
Certainly not *other* villains.  
Or worse: *LAW-DOERS!*



He's an...evil  
astronaut?

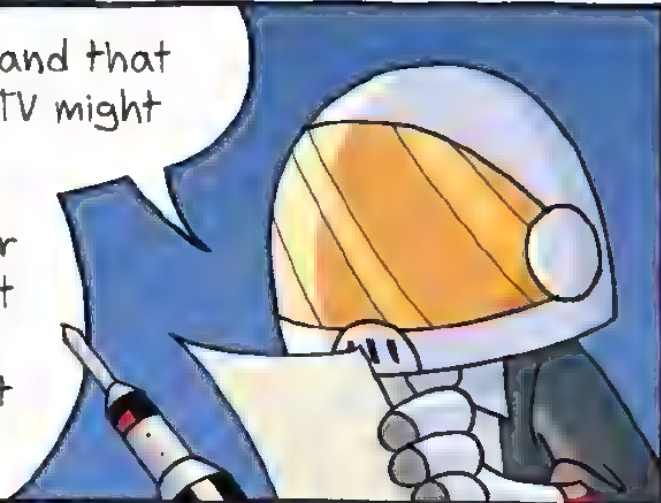


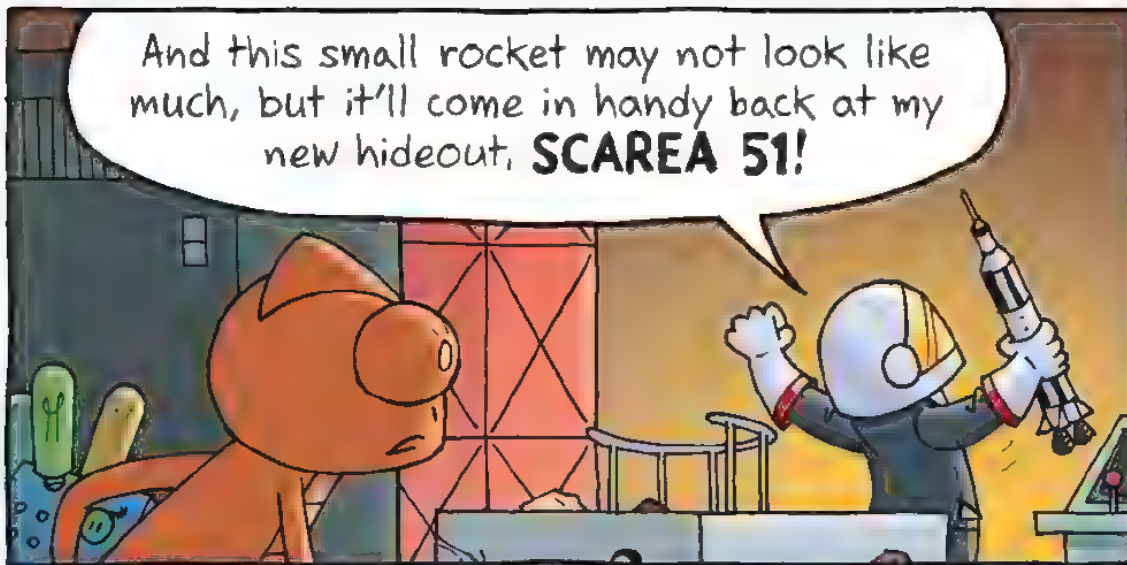
If anybody else comes across one of  
these T.A.I.L. Blazers flyers like I did,  
it'll lead them right here!



That said, this flyer and that  
talking waffle from TV might  
have the right idea...

Teaming up with other  
villains *WOULD* make it  
easier to conduct my  
next evil plan. I can't  
perform it *SOLO*.

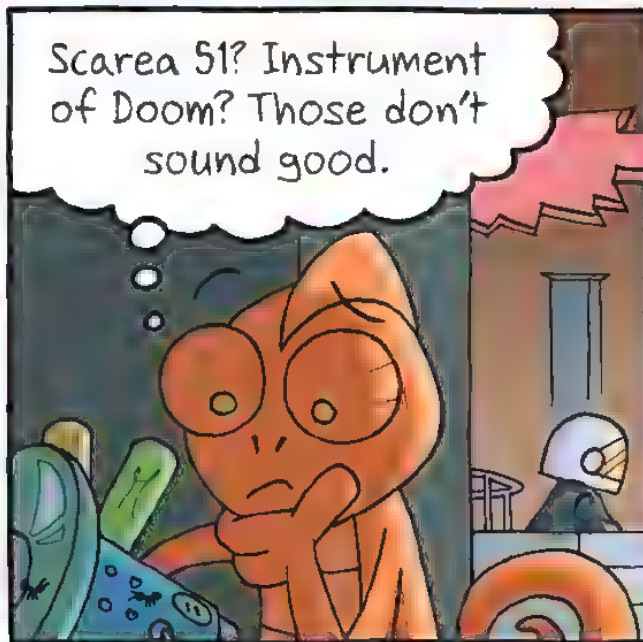




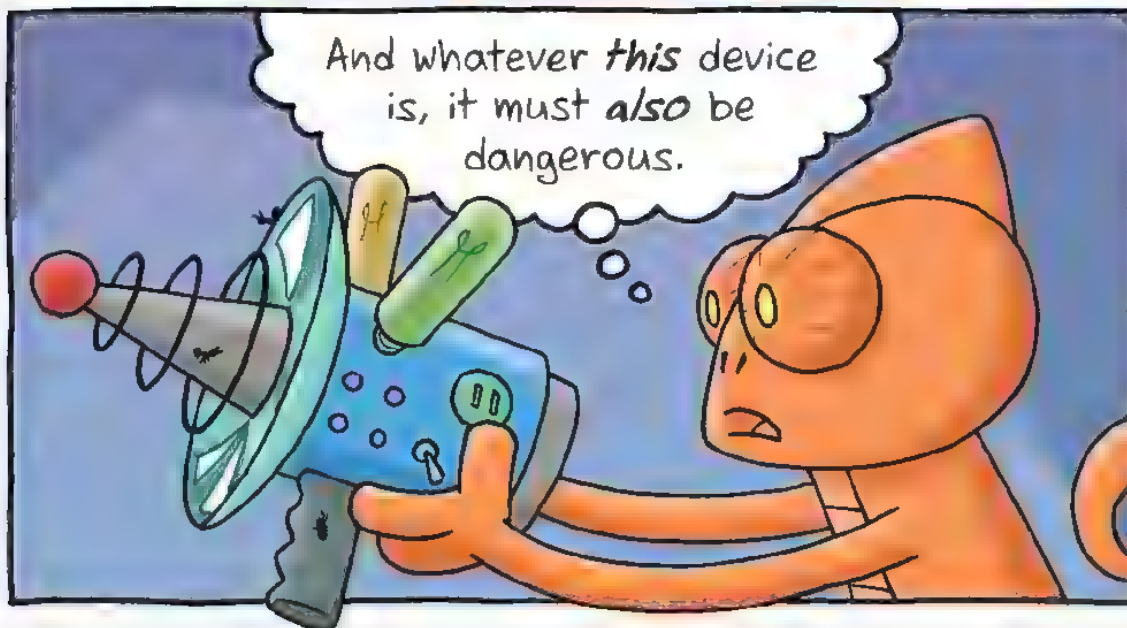
And this small rocket may not look like much, but it'll come in handy back at my new hideout, **SCAREA 51!**



Not even *tiny* ants will be able to stop my *magnum opus!*



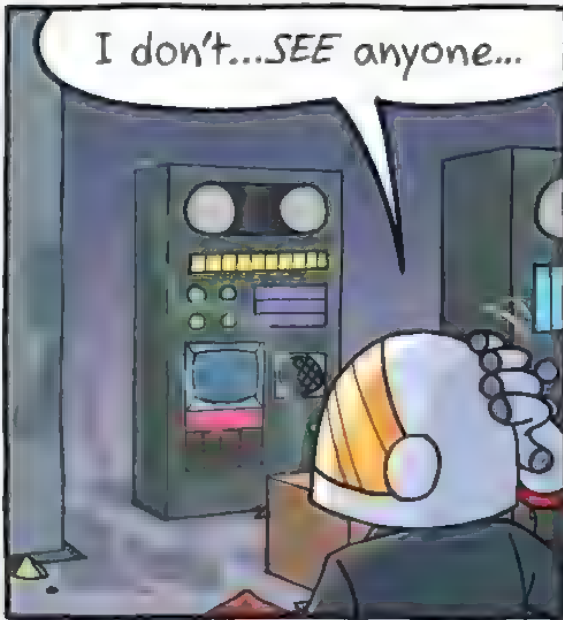
Scarea 51? Instrument of Doom? Those don't sound good.



And whatever *this* device is, it must *also* be dangerous.

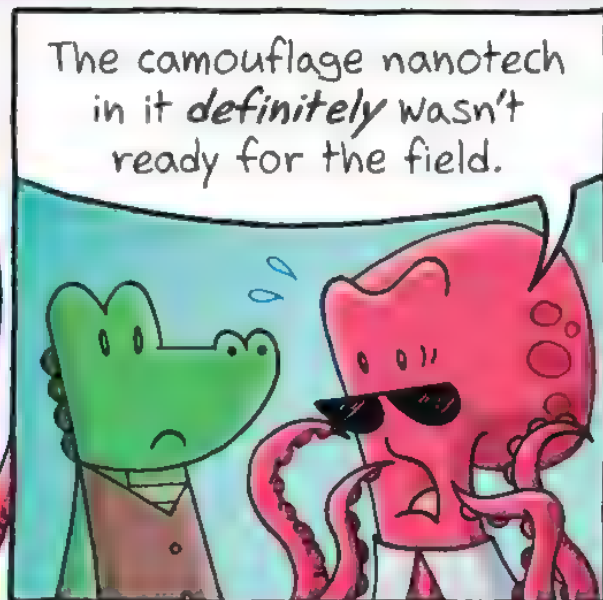
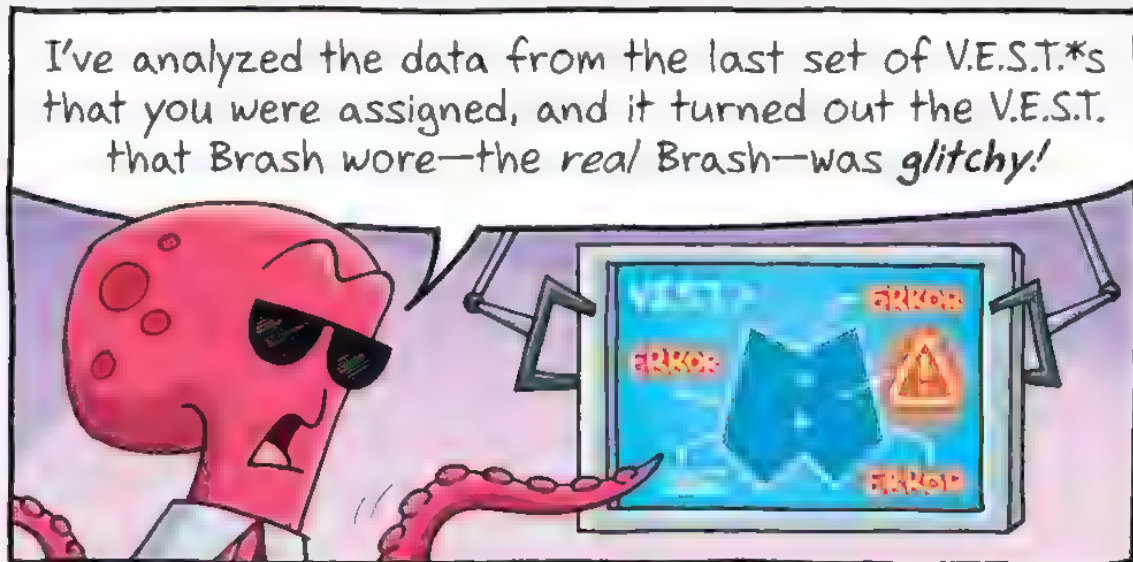
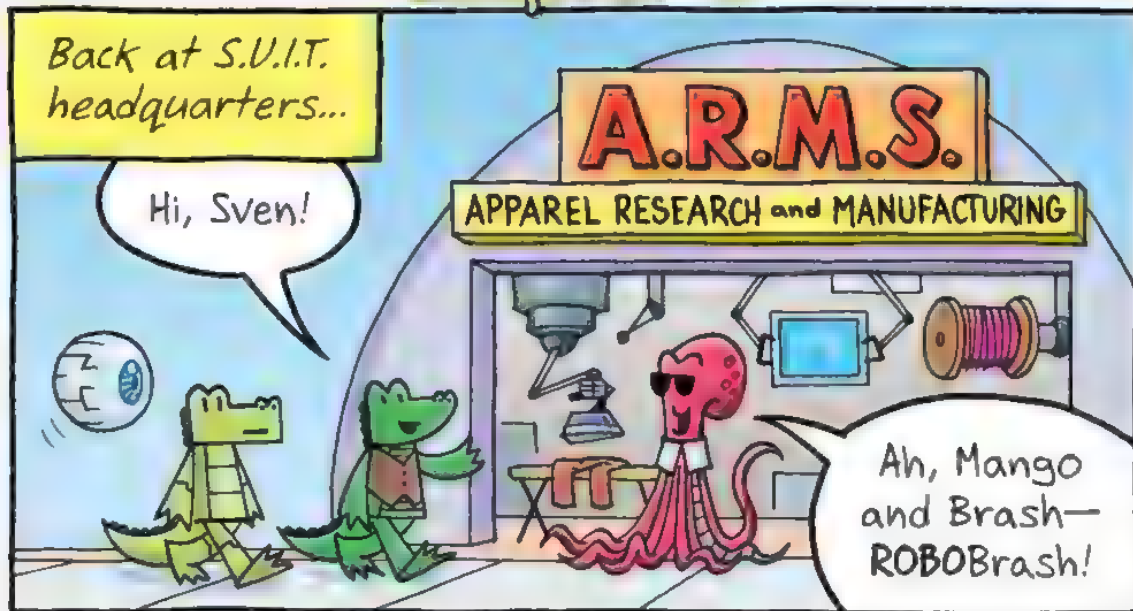








## Chapter 3



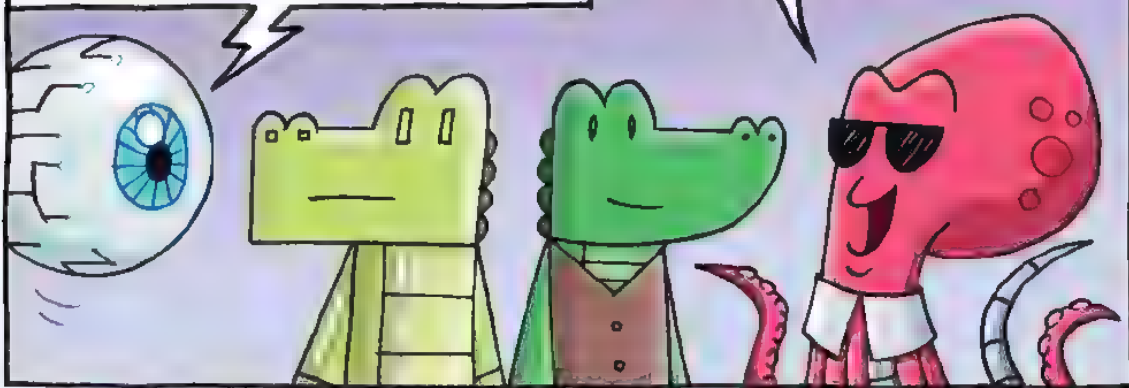
\*Very Exciting Spy Technology





Unless I'm needed, I shall leave the InvestiGators in your capable hands, Sven.

Oh, yes, of course. Thank you, C-ORB.

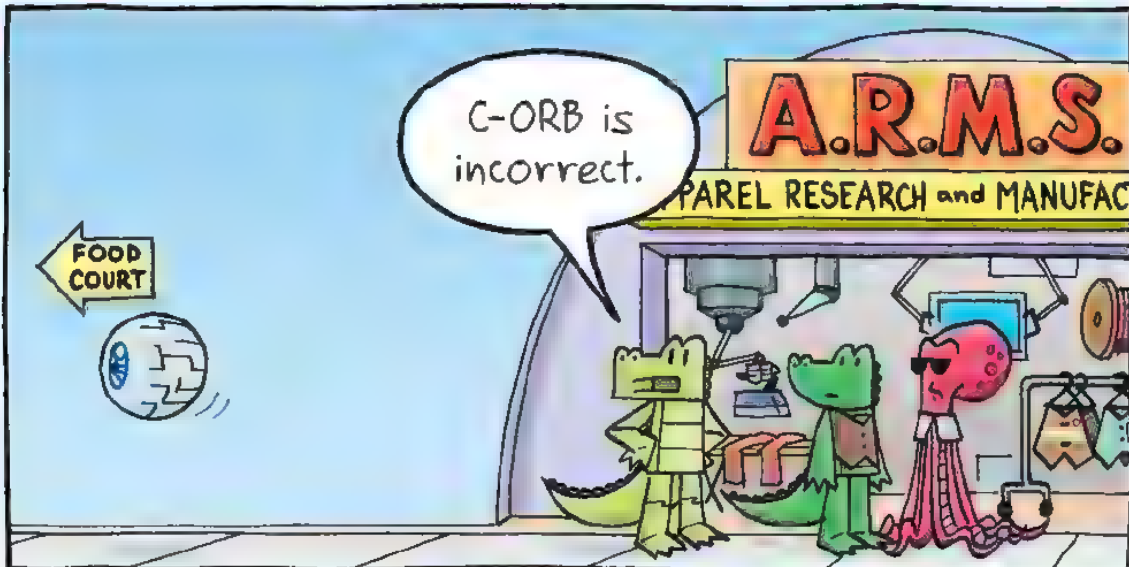


C-ORB is incorrect.

**A.R.M.S.**

APAREL RESEARCH and MANUFACT

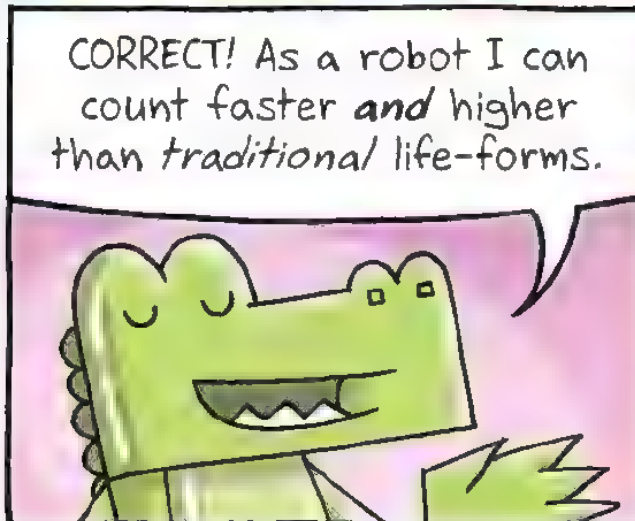
FOOD COURT



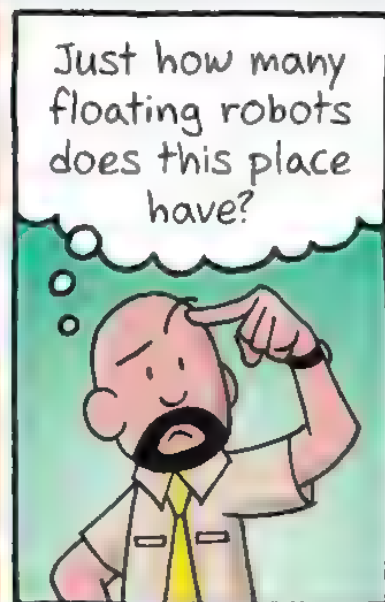
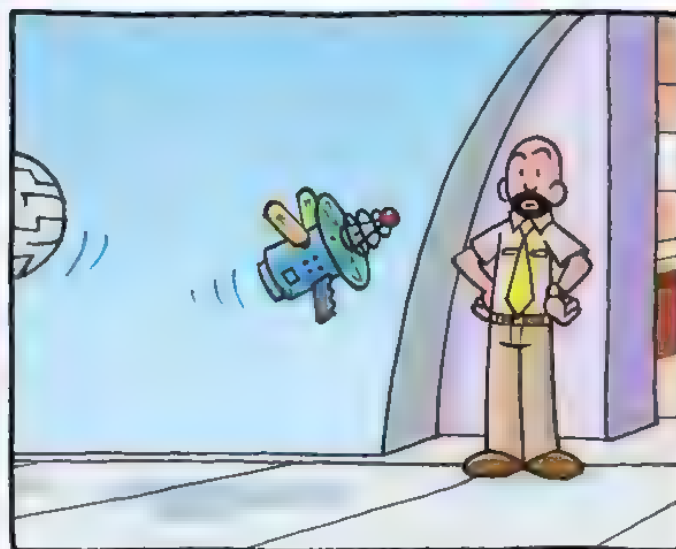
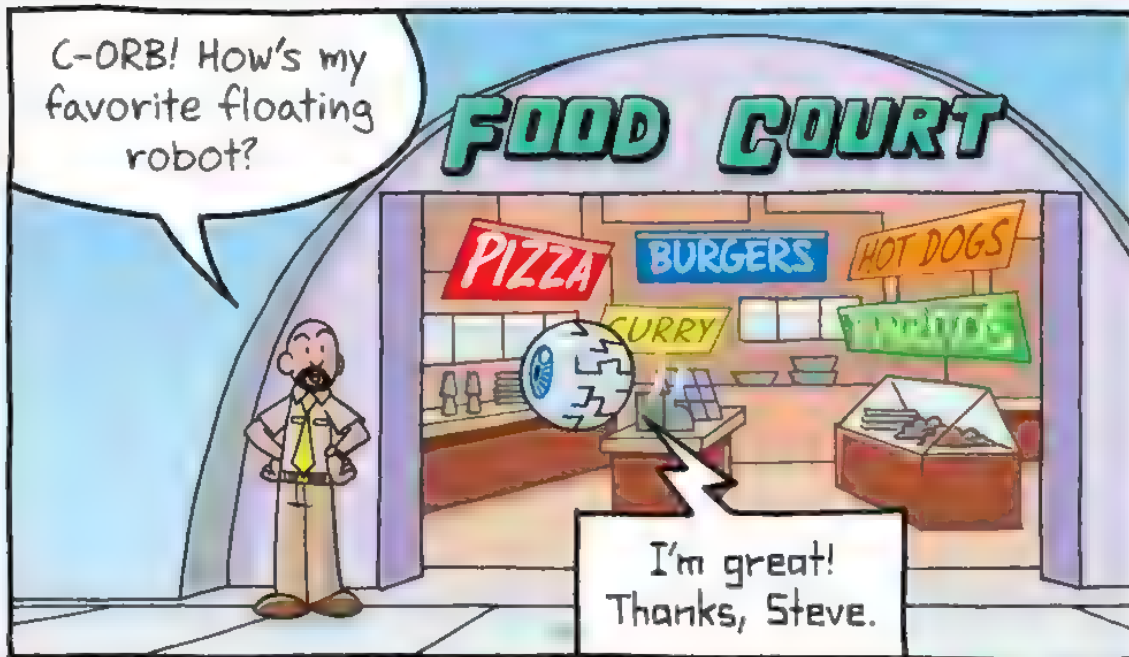
Octopuses do not have *hands*. They have *tentacles*.

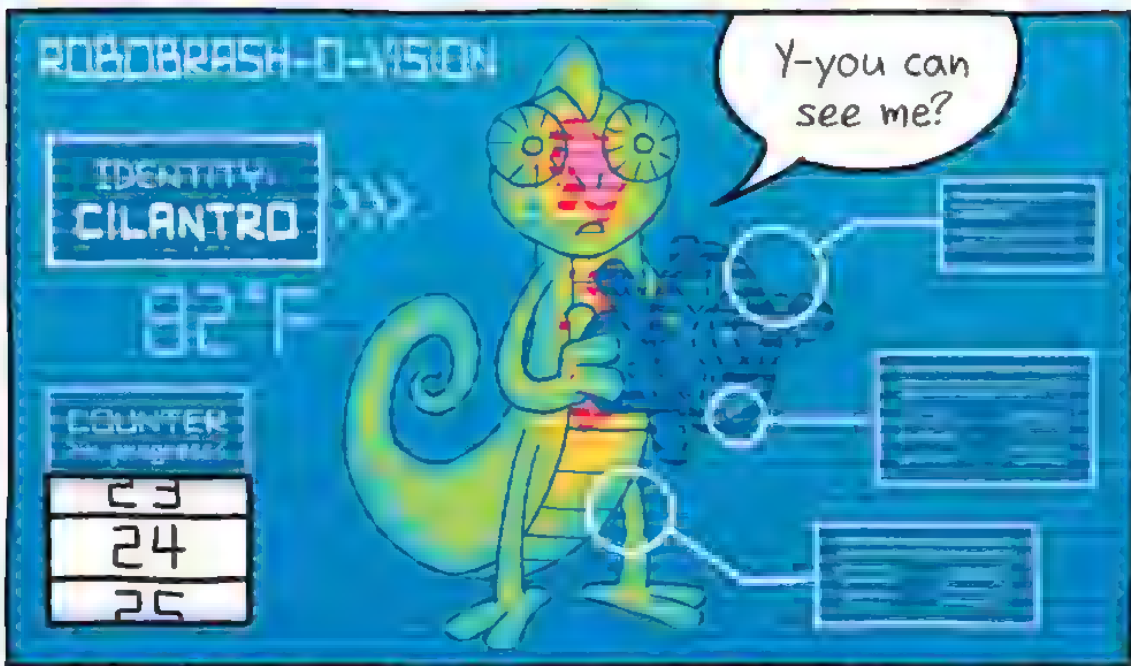
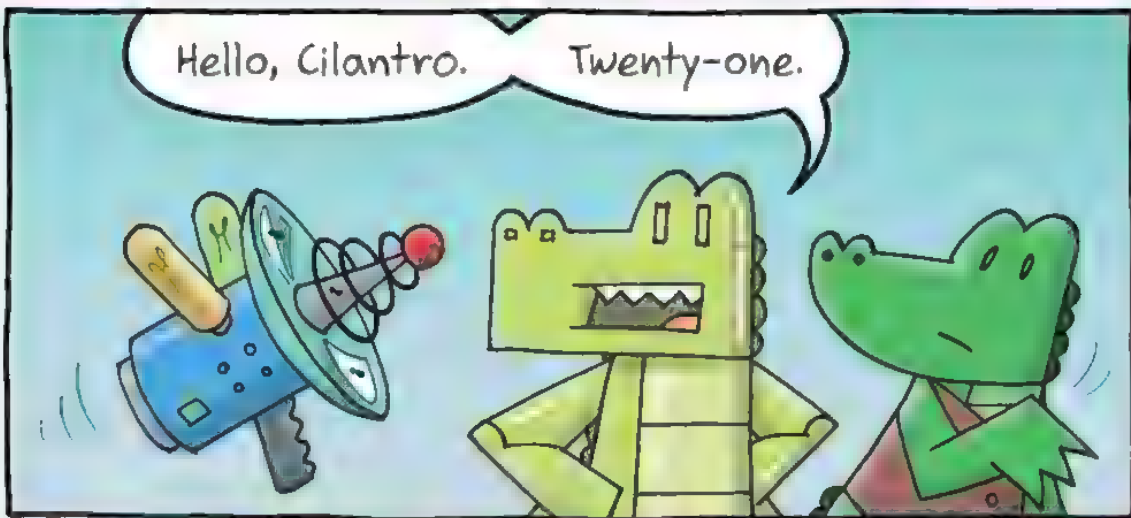
*TEN?* Sven only has *SEVEN*. Six if you don't count the metal one.



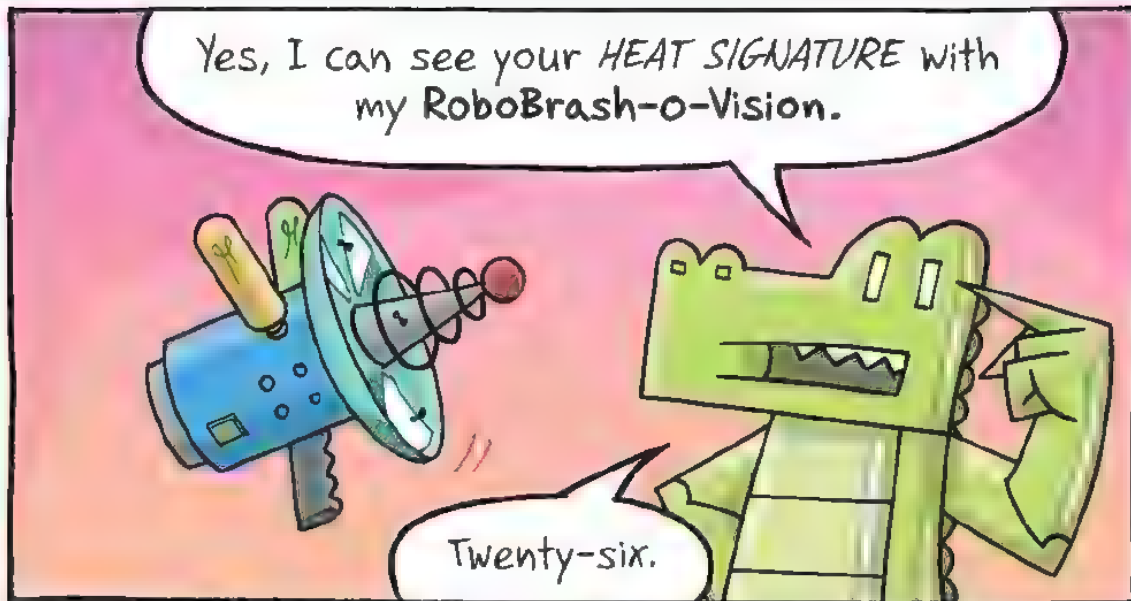






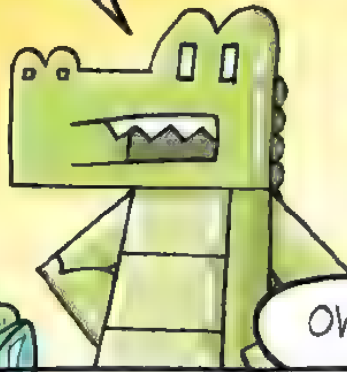
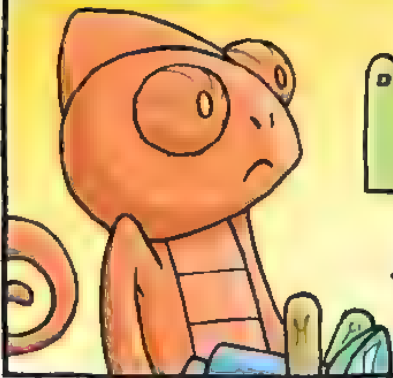






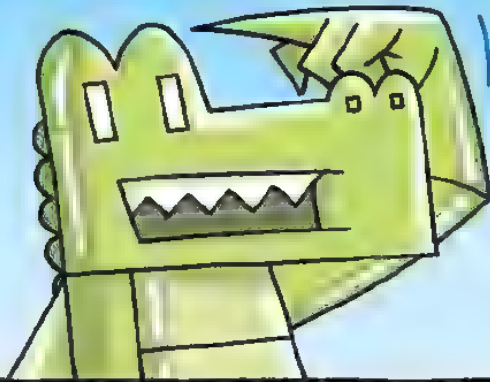
Investigating the opera house?  
You are not cleared for *field work*,  
Cilantro. This goes against  
S.U.I.T. protocol.

Thirty-four.

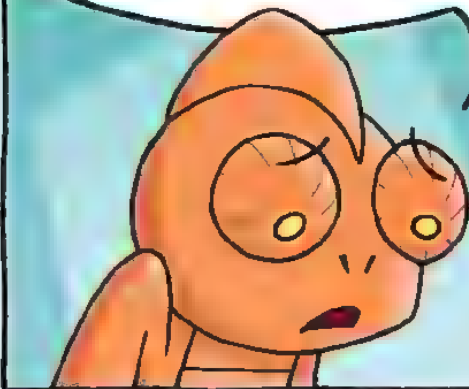


Oh, will you be quiet?!

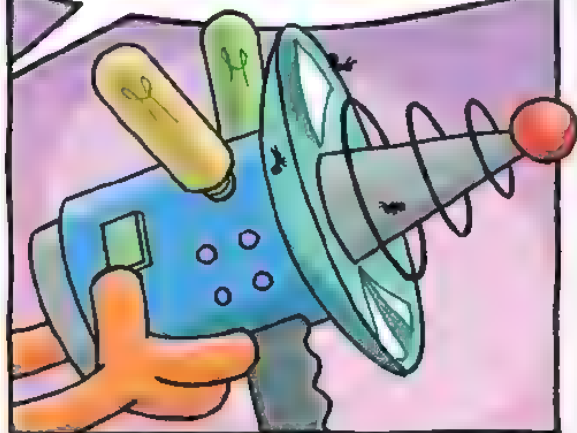
Affirmative. I shall keep counting *IN MY HEAD!*



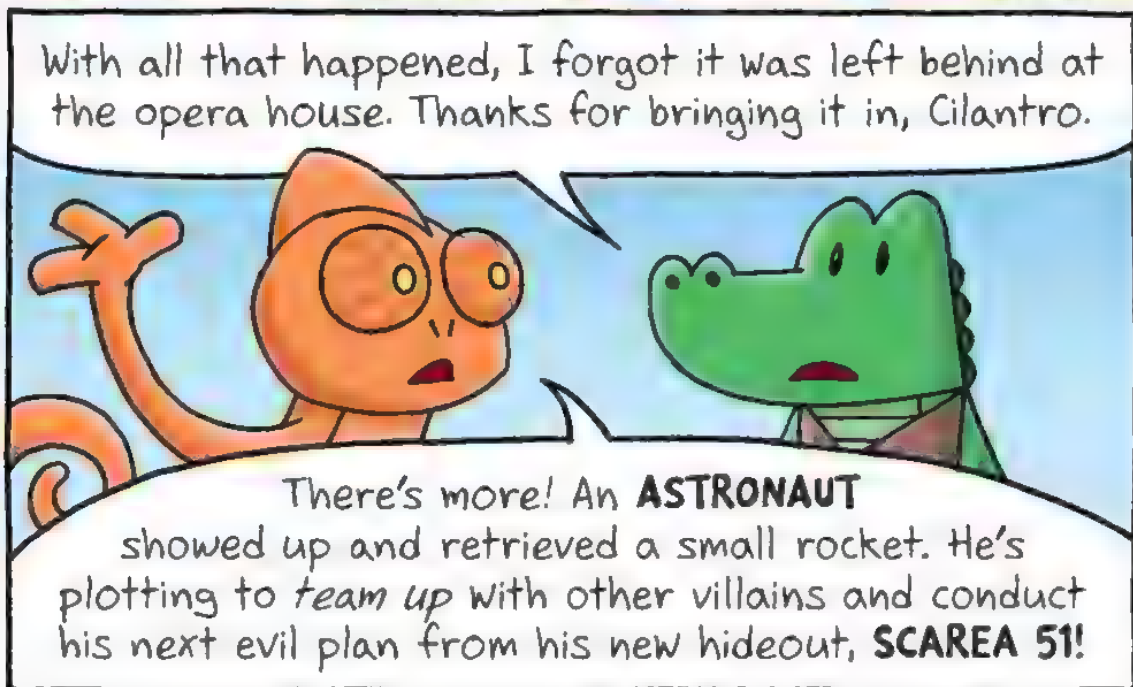
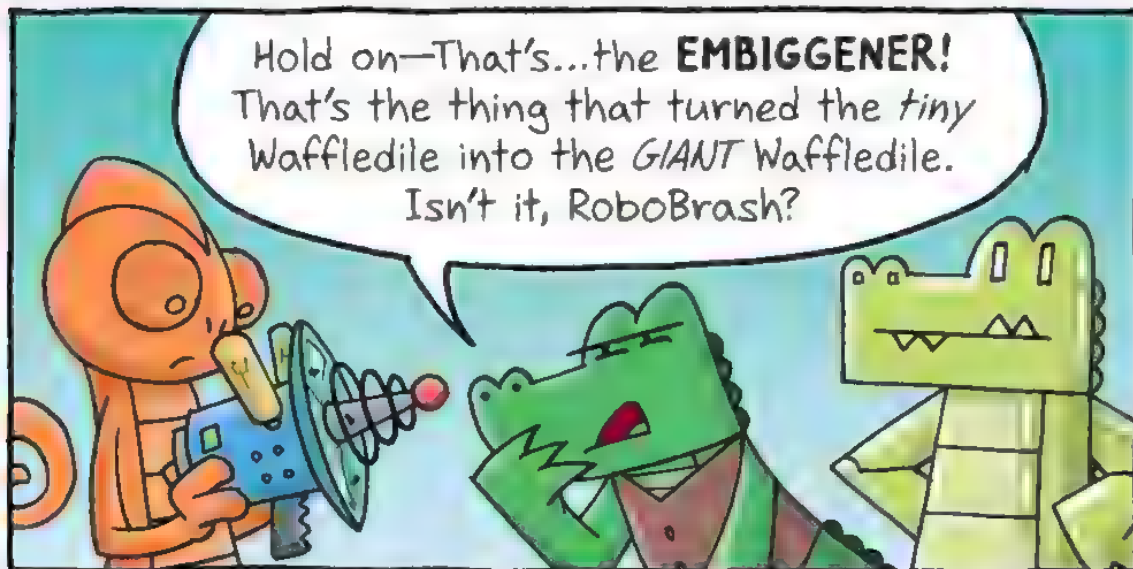
RoboBrash is right. I'm  
not a field agent. I know  
I wasn't supposed to  
be there.



But I found this! I'm  
sure it's a **superweapon**  
or something—







EVIL ASTRONAUT? At the  
OPERA HOUSE?! *≡GASP!≡*  
He must have been  
the villain behind that  
rocket launch!



I remember that mission!  
We were undercover as  
orchestra musi—

YES, I was there!



We need to stop  
him *before* he has  
a chance to put his  
*devious* scheme  
into action.

This is the perfect job for  
the **Anti-Crime Unit**! We'll  
find Scarea 51, convince him  
we're *ALSO* evil astronauts,  
and once he reveals his  
plan, **WE NAB HIM!**

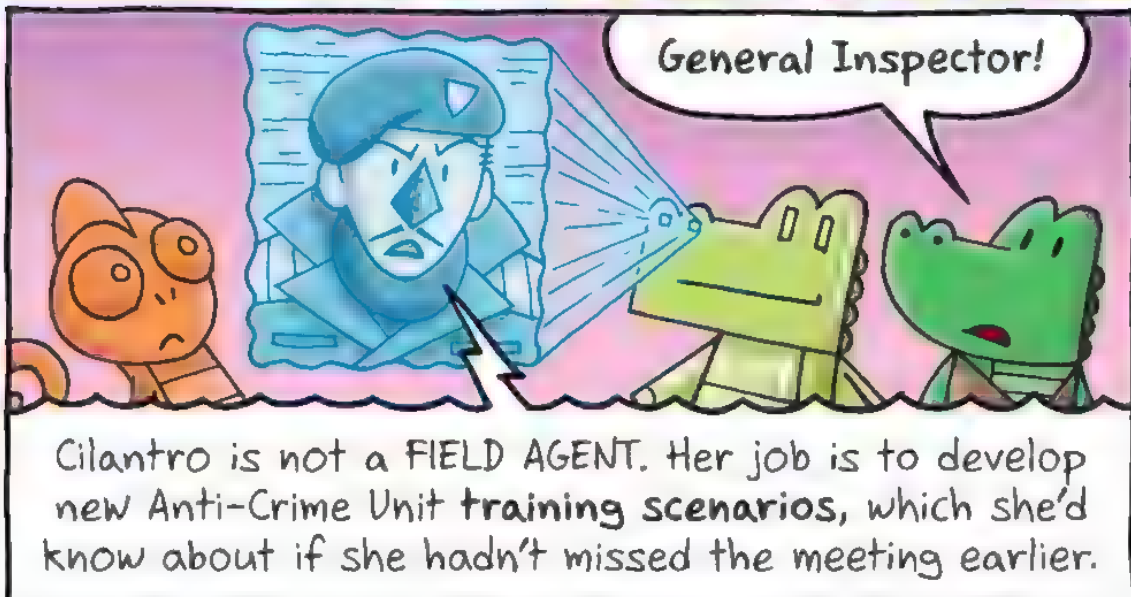
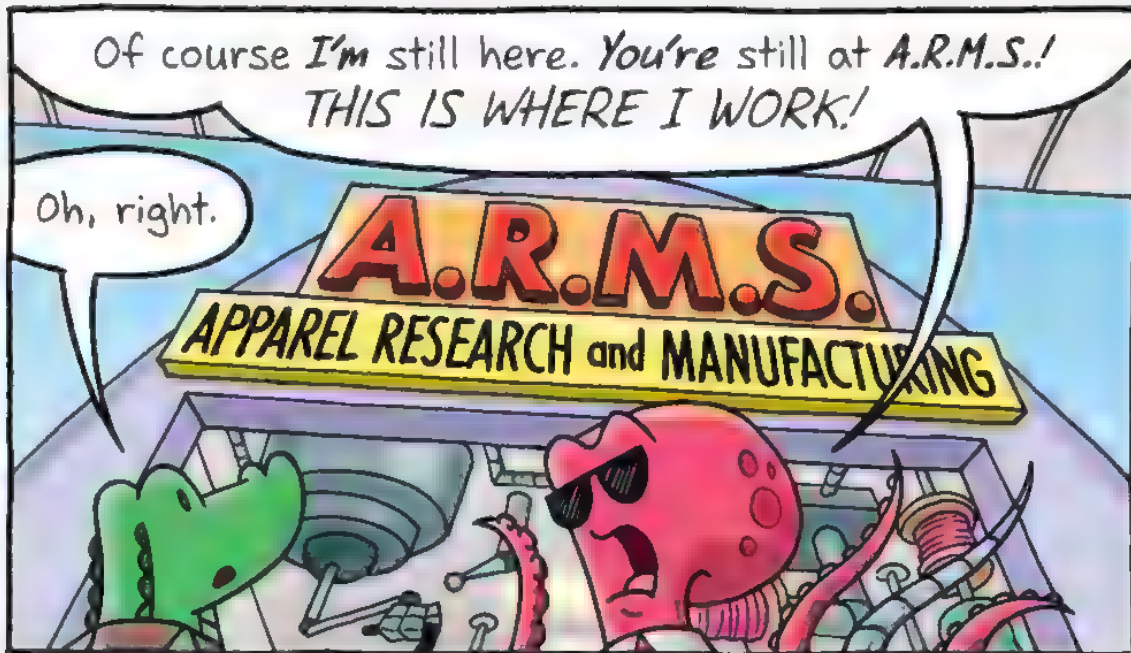


Ooh, I've never designed an  
astronaut outfit. How exciting!

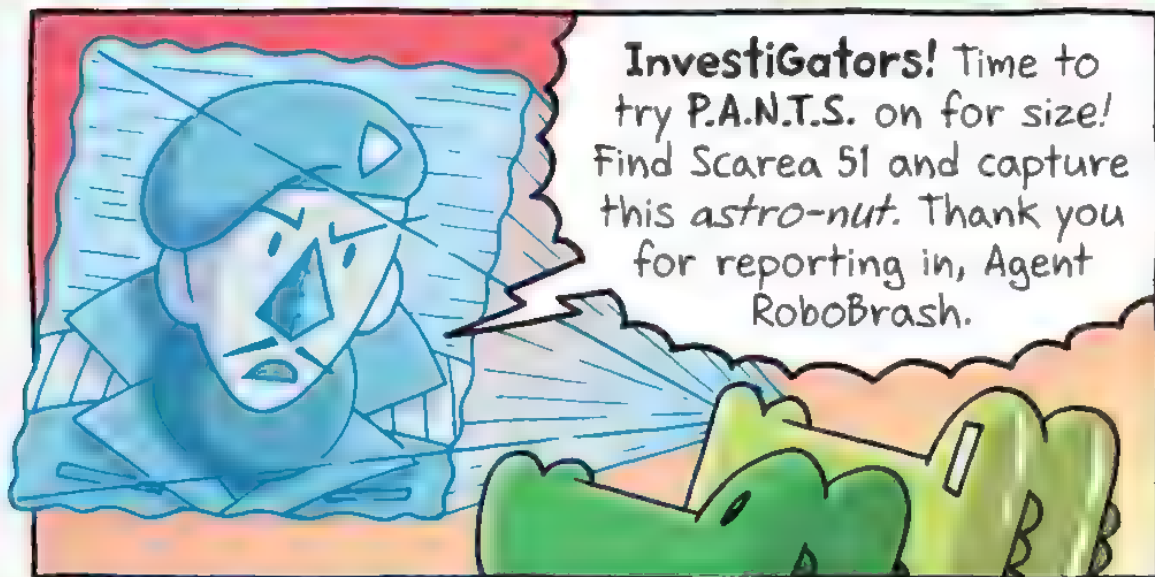
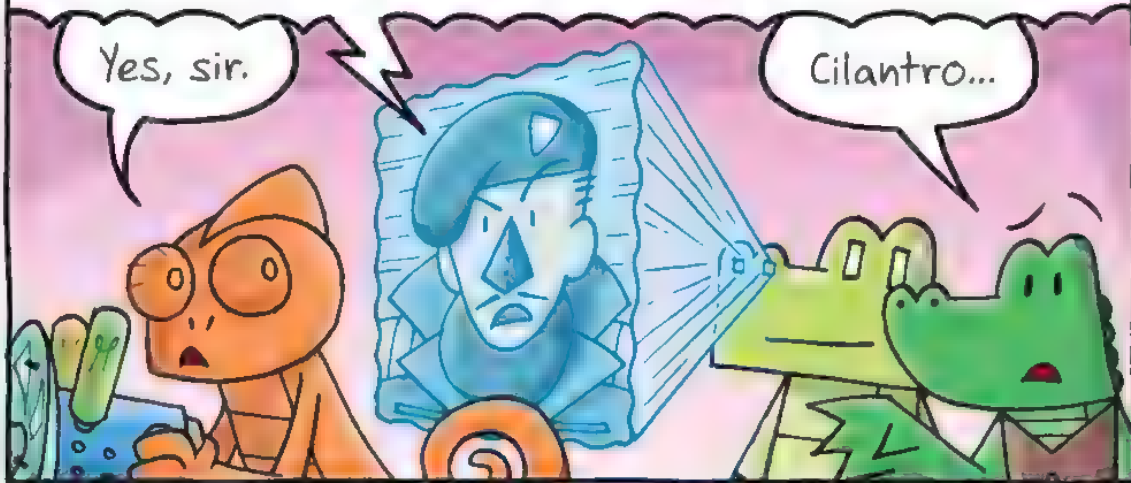
Sven!  
You're still  
here!







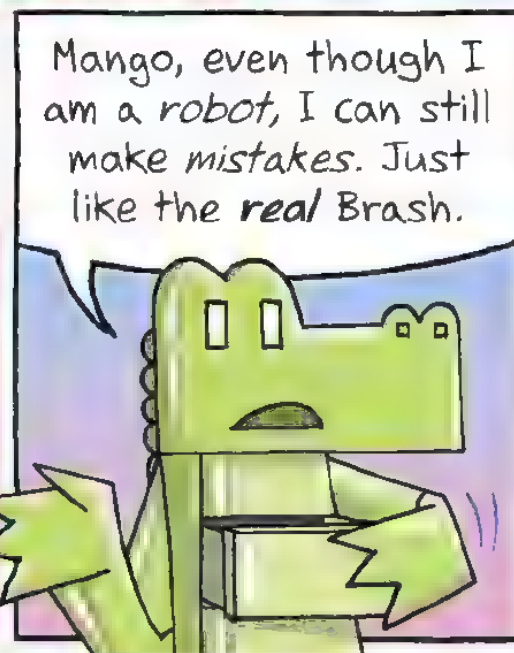
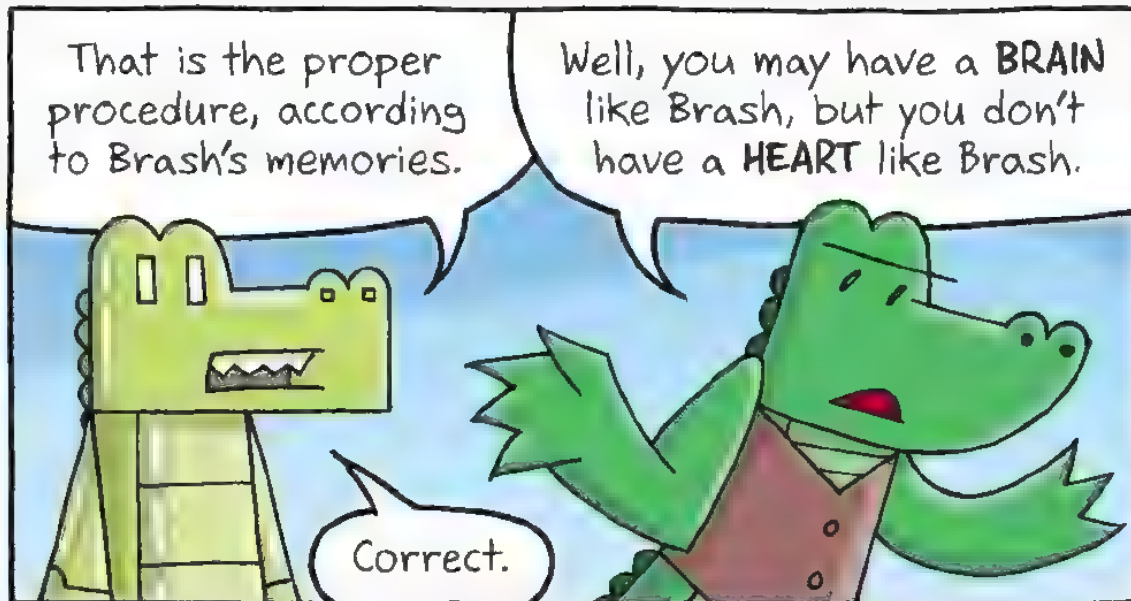
Cilantro, take that thing you found to Agent Monocle for analysis, and then report to your station.

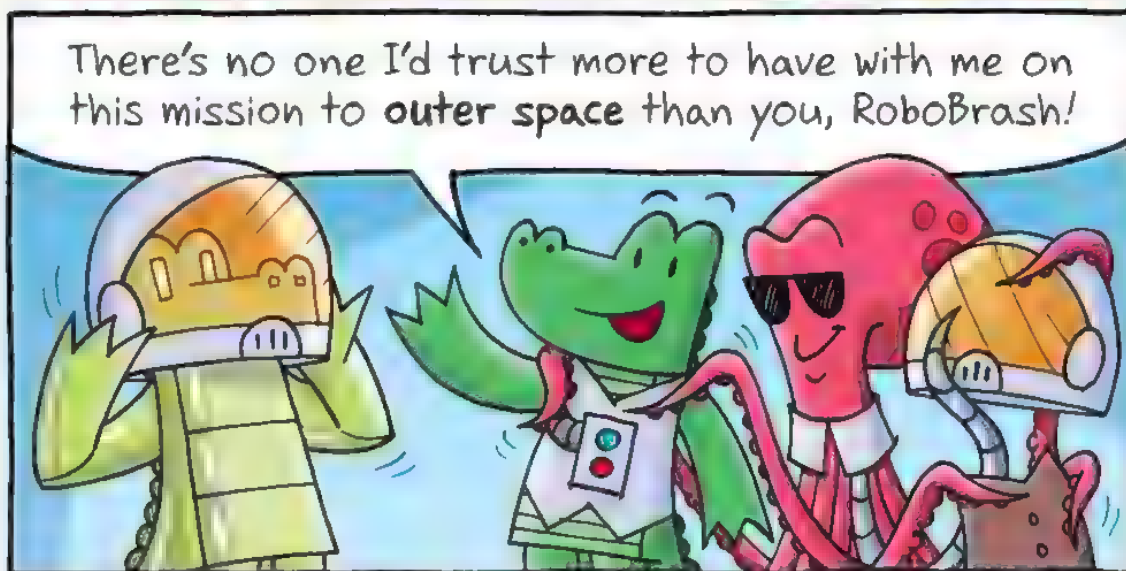
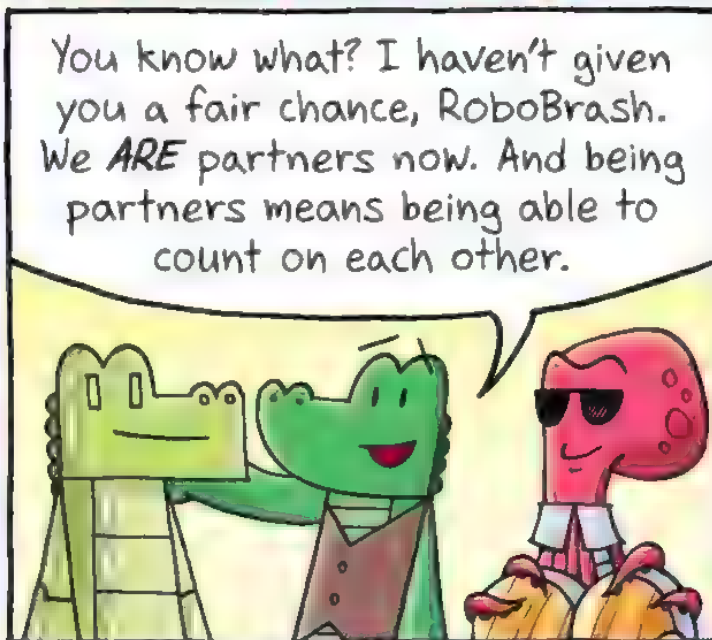
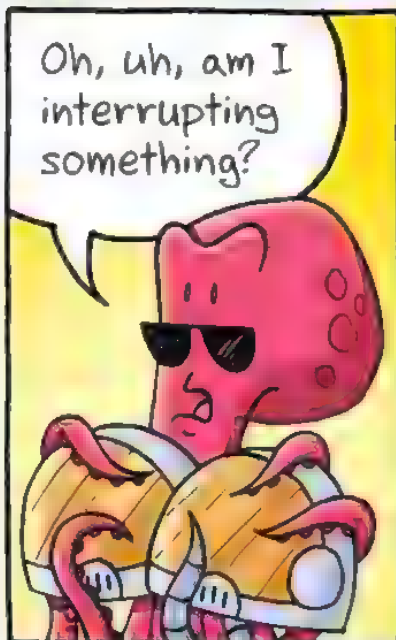
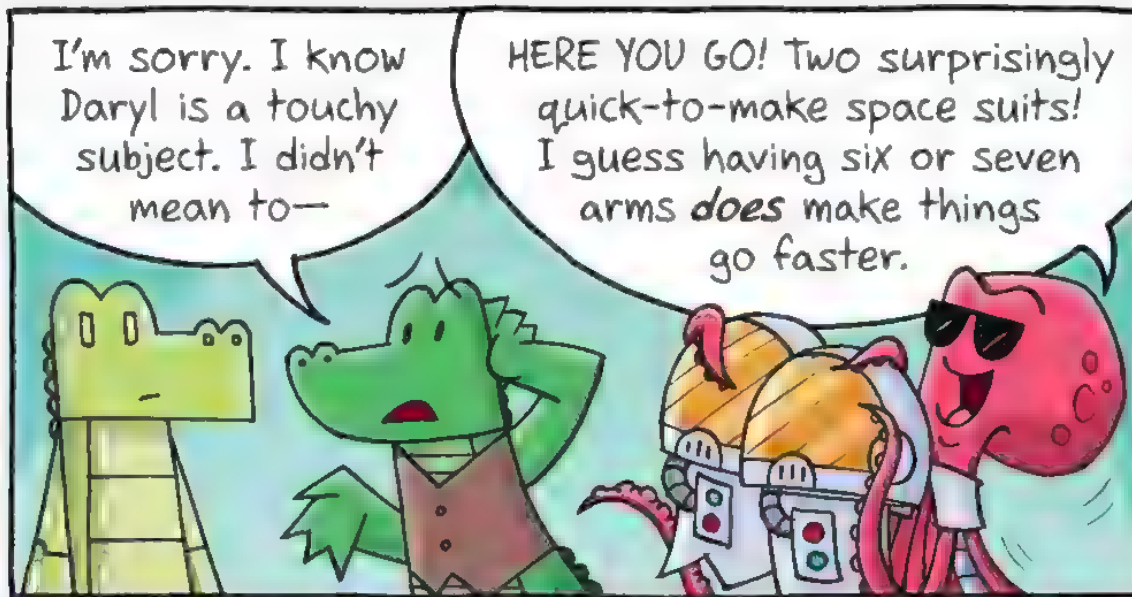


Really, RoboBrash? I know you *THINK* like the real Brash, but he wouldn't rat out Cilantro like that.



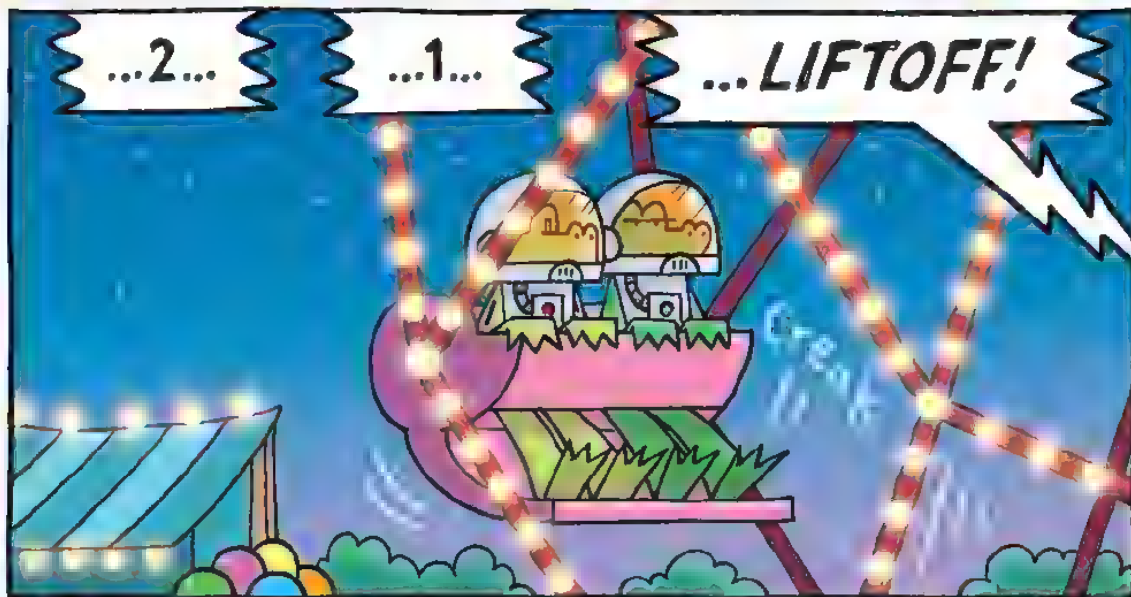
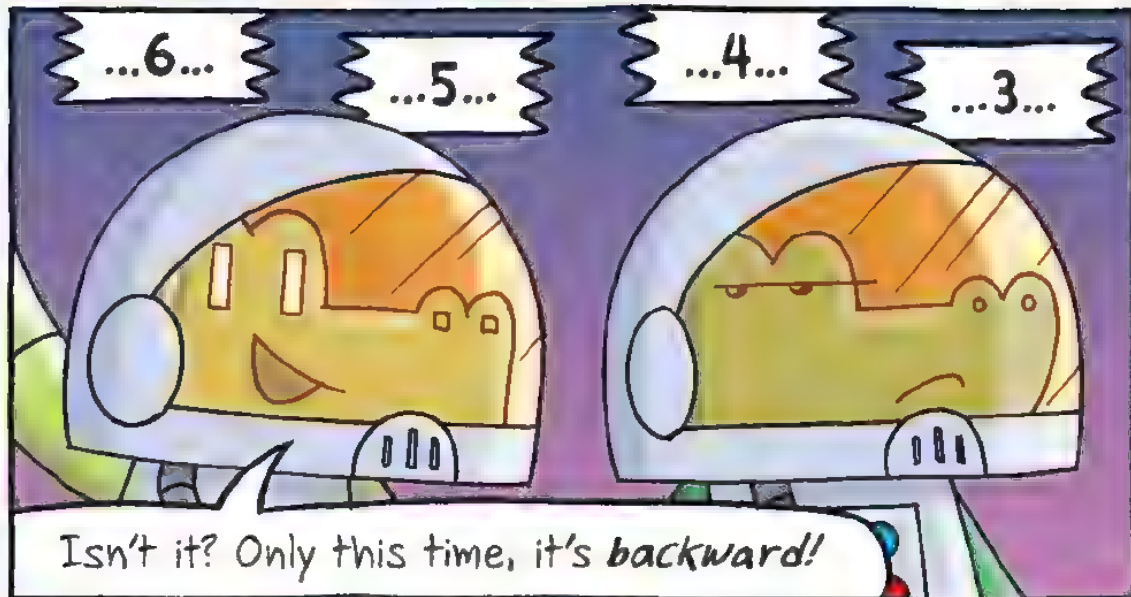
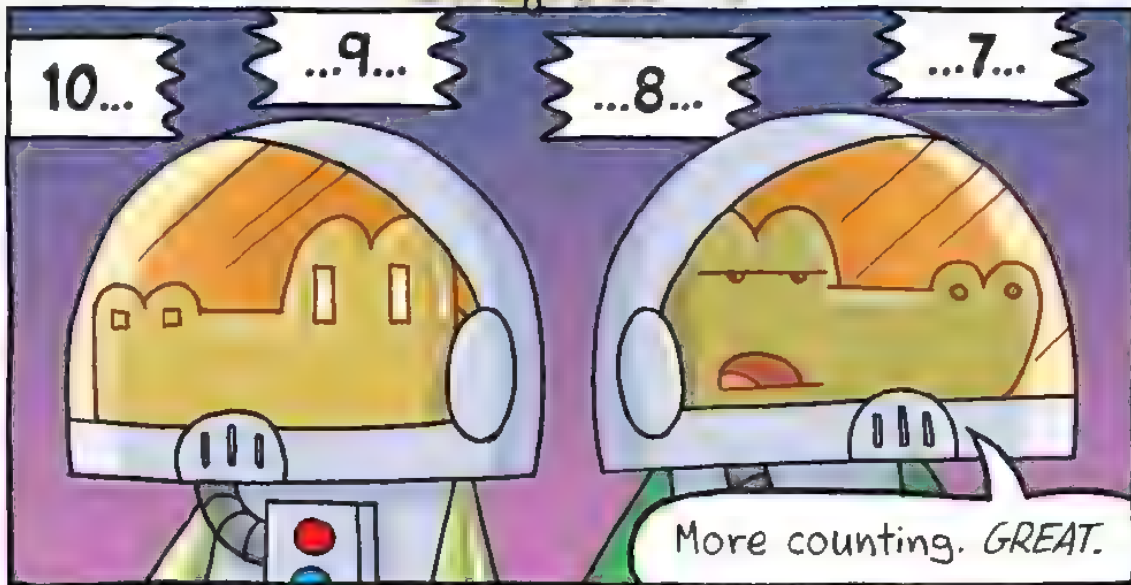






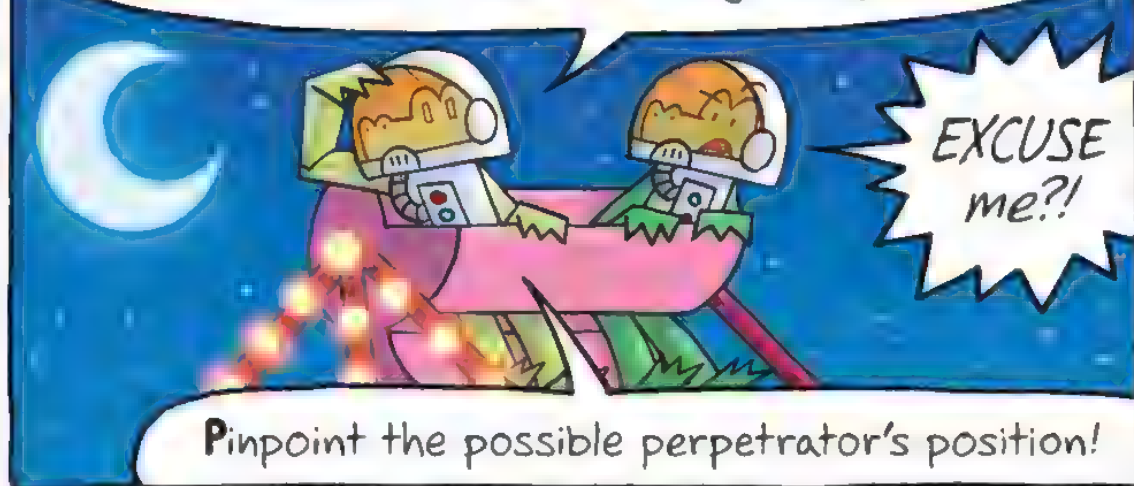


## Chapter 4



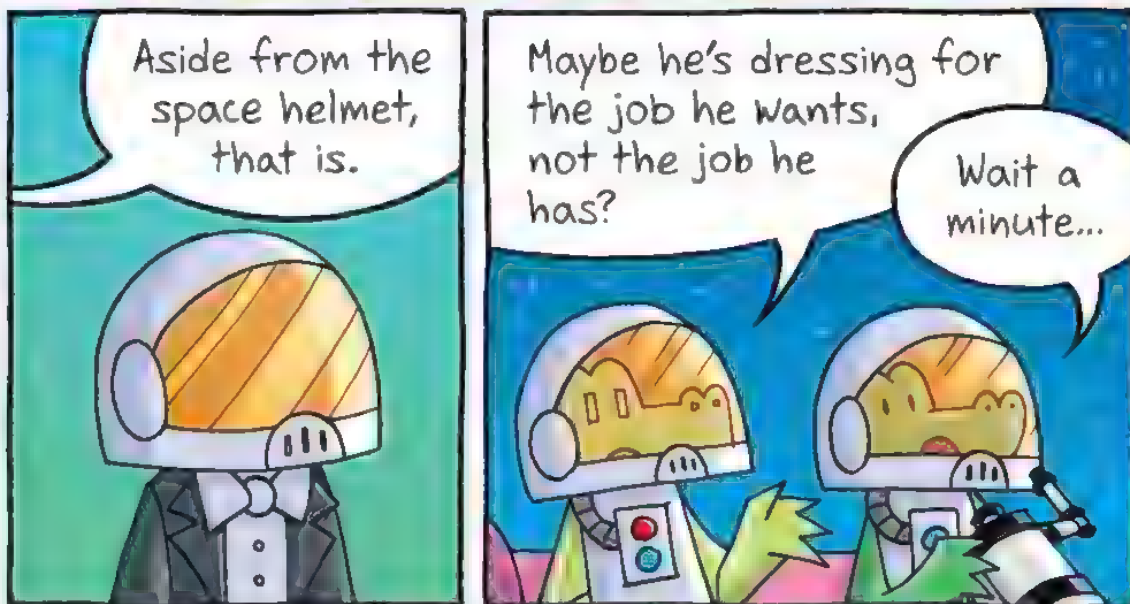
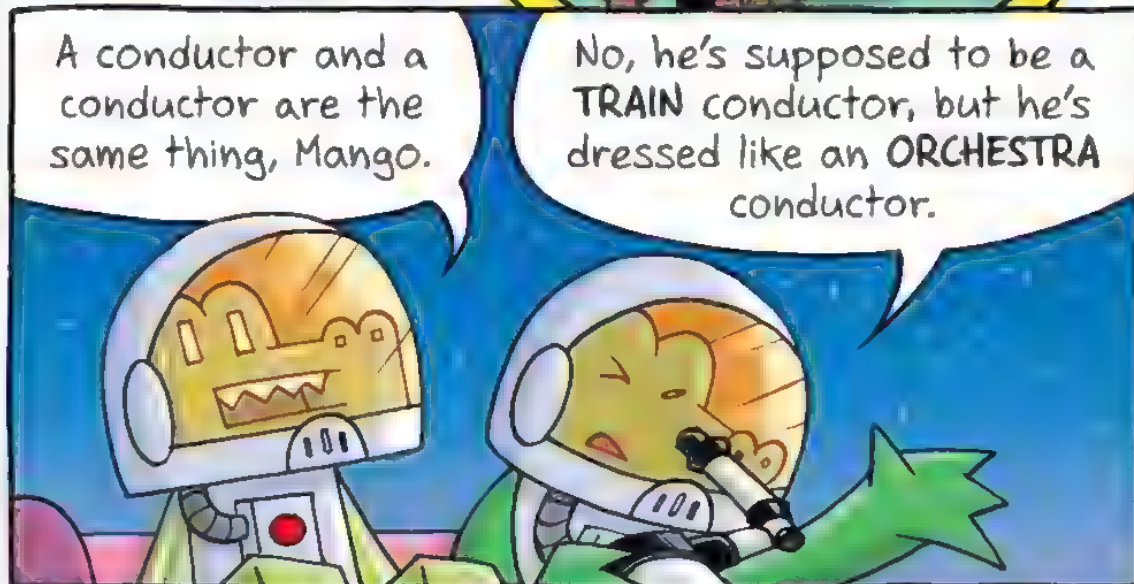
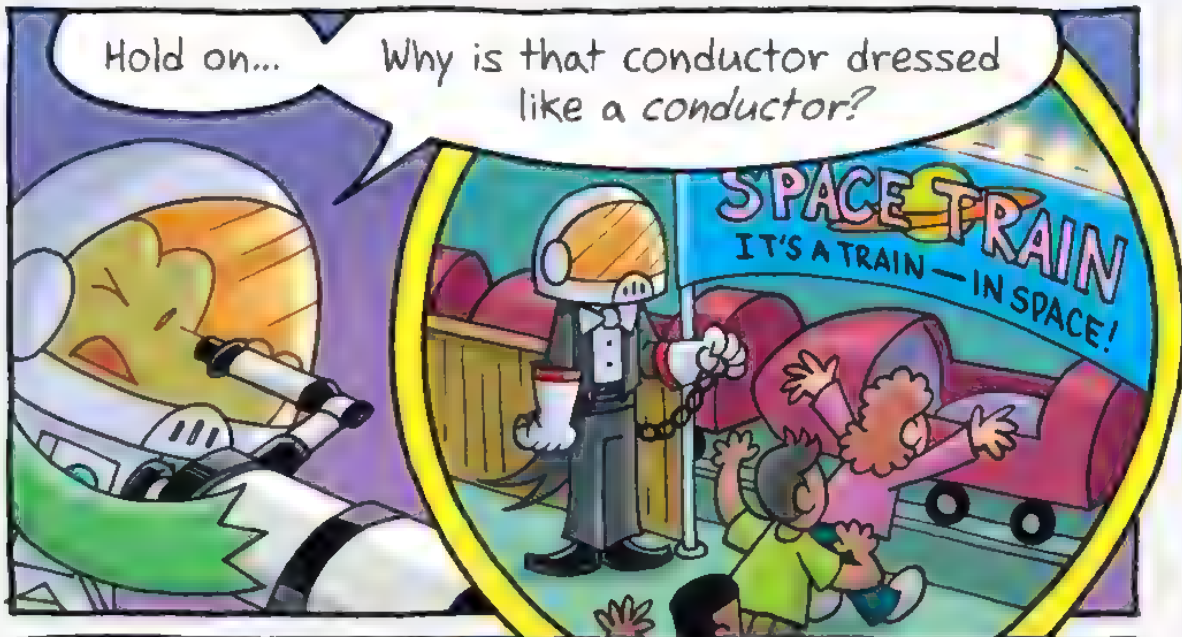


We didn't know Scarea 51 would turn out to be an amusement park. But it doesn't mean our evil astronaut isn't using this place as a hideout. We'll have a better chance at spotting him from up here. Time to start P-ing, Mango!



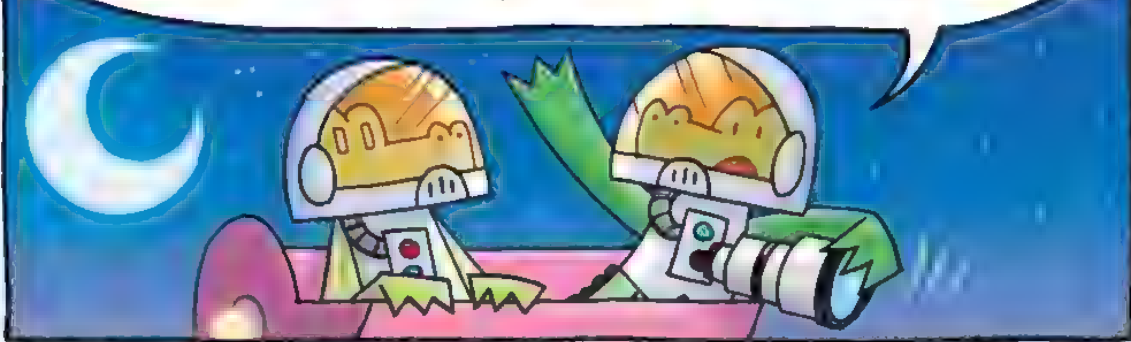








The villain we're looking for is an **ASTRONAUT** who had a rocket base under the **OPERA HOUSE**! That **HAS** to be the space man we're after!



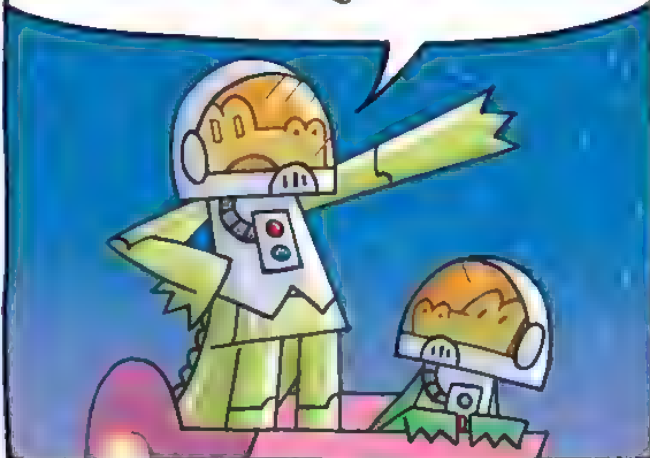
Cilantro did say he plans to *conduct* an evil scheme.



Our villain's not just an astronaut... He's a **MAESTRONAUT!**

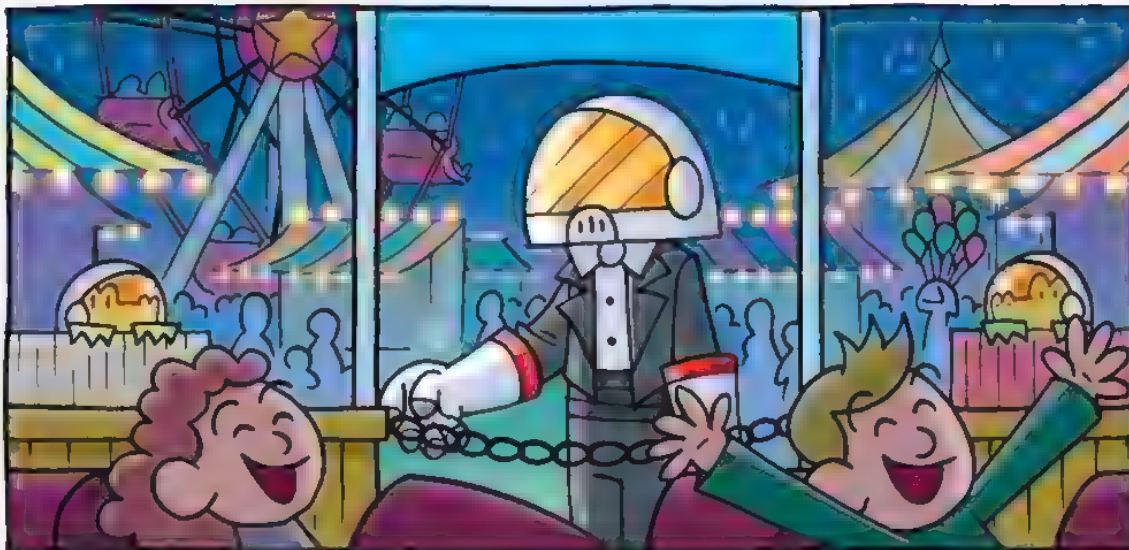


Then our **P** is taken care of, so that leaves our A.N.T.S.! Let's get down there and **AVOID** blowing our cover!



Once this thing starts moving again.

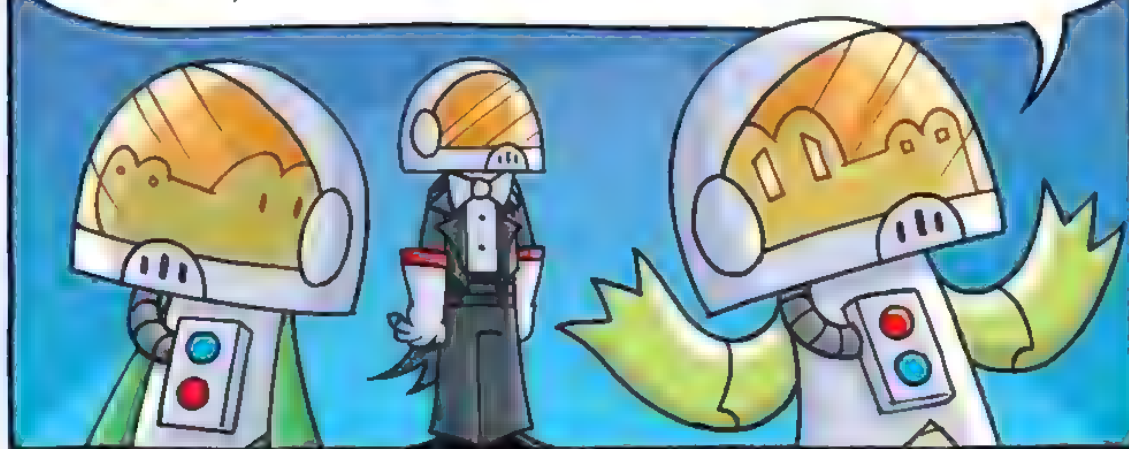




WOE IS ME! It's so much work being **EVIL** all by myself.  
Such is the life of a villainous astronaut, it seems!

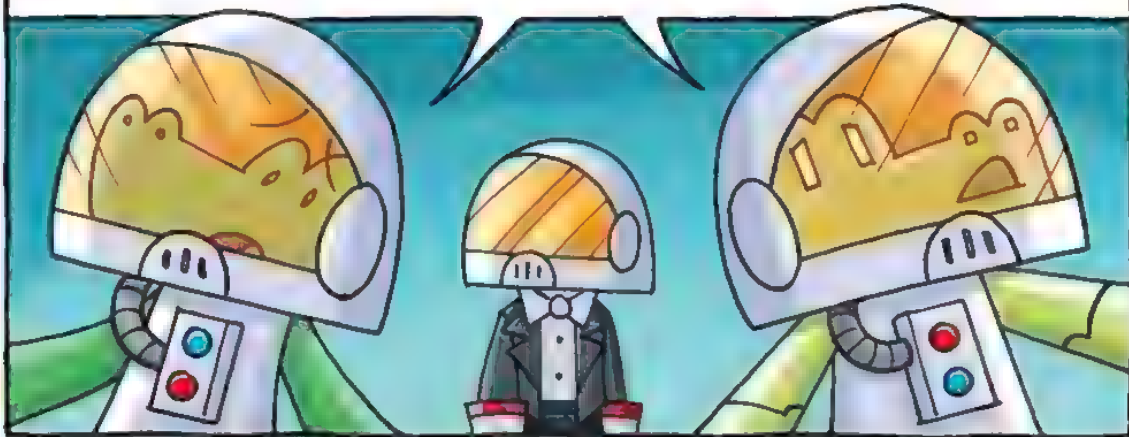


**INDEED!** My criminal ploy is delayed yet again, for  
no one shares my **EVIL ASTRONAUTICAL INTERESTS**.  
If only I could find other like-minded villains!

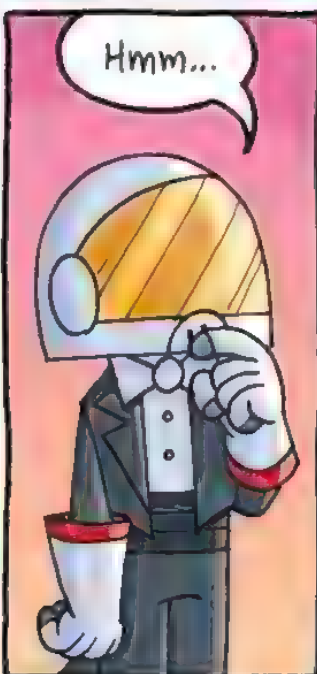




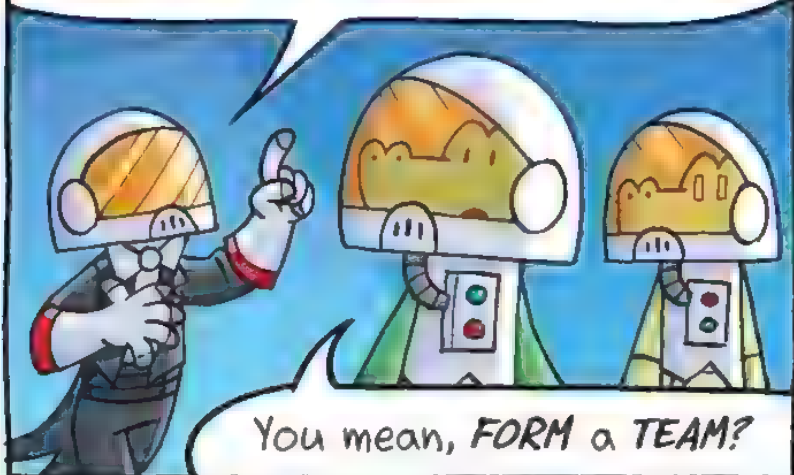
I GUESS US EVILDOERS ARE DESTINED TO BE ALONE!



Hmm...

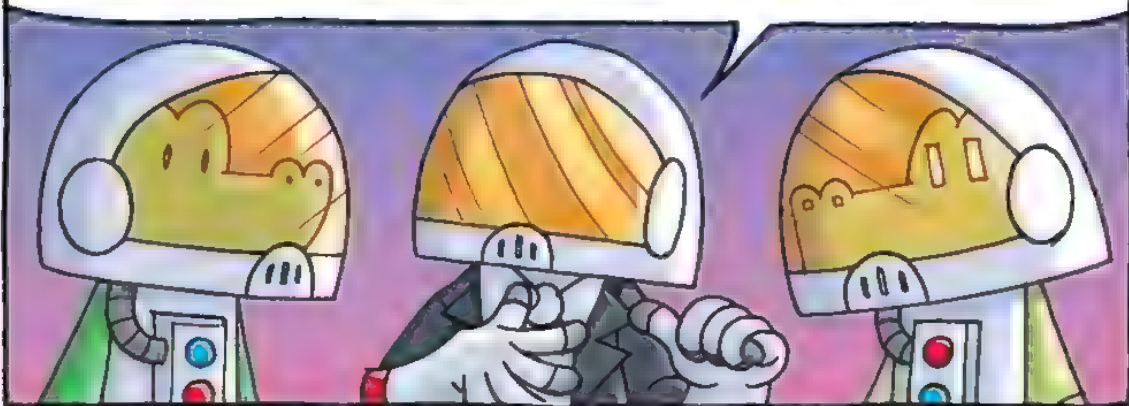


Excuse me! I couldn't help but overhear. I am *ALSO* evil. Would you like to...become an ensemble?

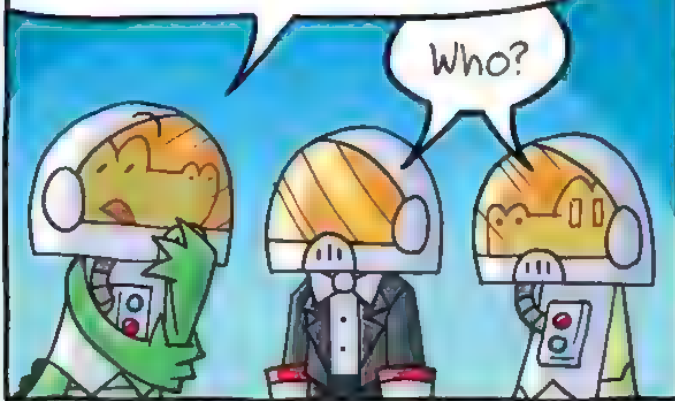


You mean, *FORM* a *TEAM*?

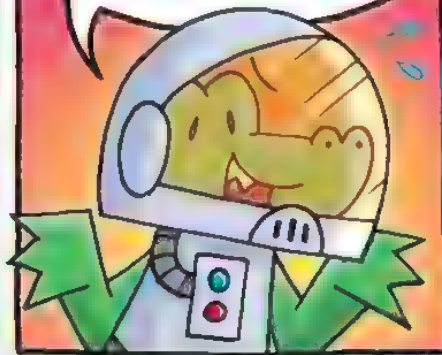
YES! In fact, I even have a name for this team: **T.A.I.L. Blazers!** It stands for *Total Annihilation of Idiot Law-doers*. I came up with it all on my own!



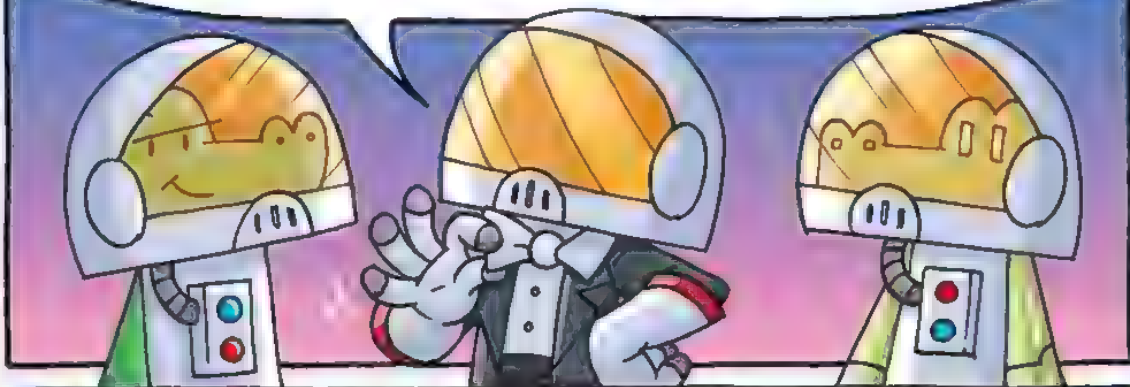
T.A.I.L. Blazers? That sounds familiar... Wasn't that one of CRACKERDILE'S plans?



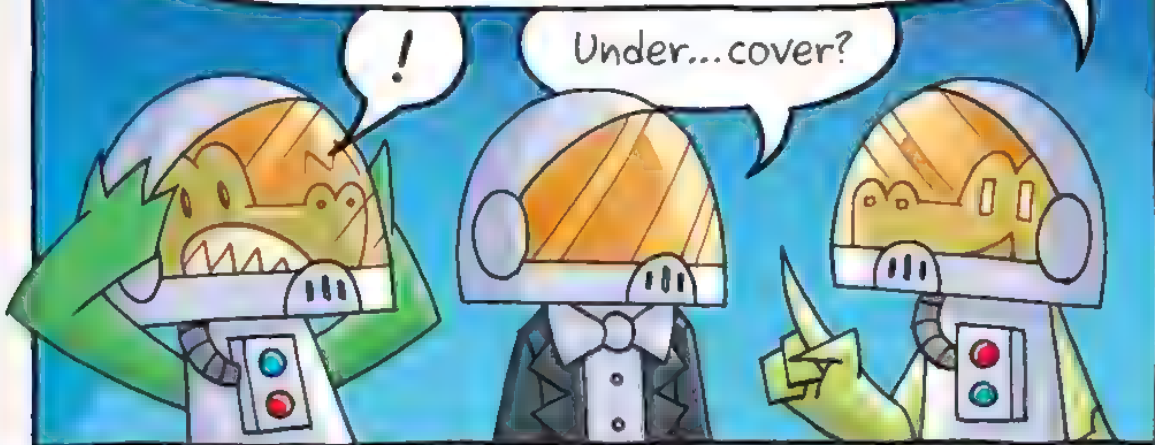
I MEAN—have you ever, um, taken a crack at an evil plan?



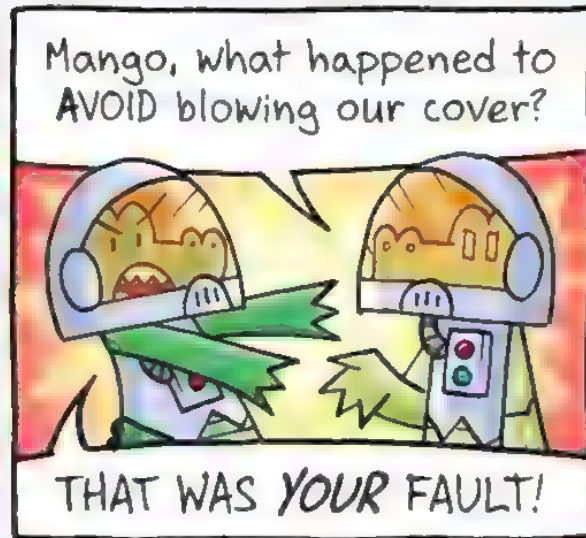
Well, I'm working at this amusement park to save up money for my next plan... But I, uh, just so happen to be the villain responsible for the **ROCKET LAUNCH** that destroyed the opera house.



I remember that mission! We were undercover as orchestra musicians.



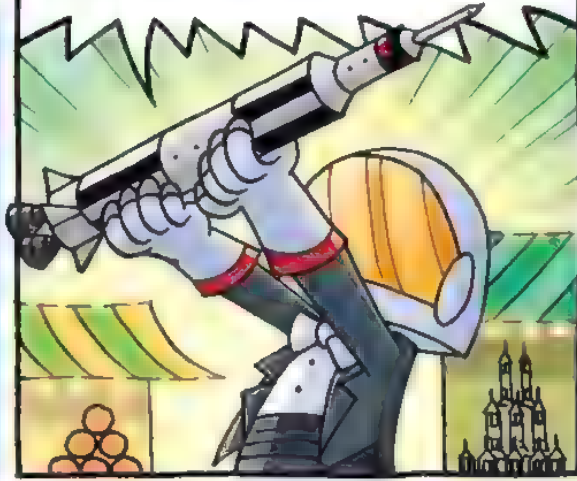




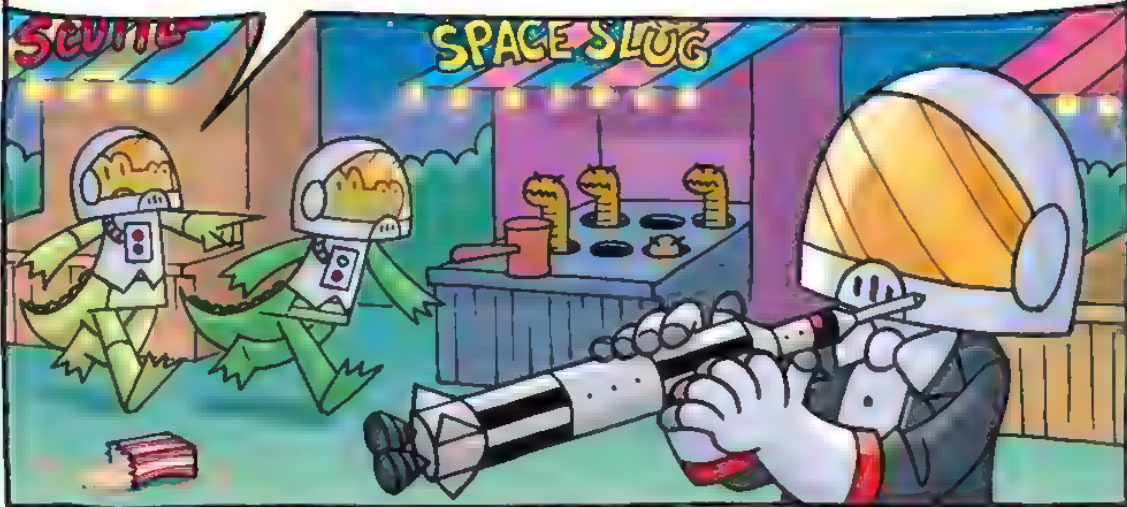
I know what'll get me  
out of this jam...



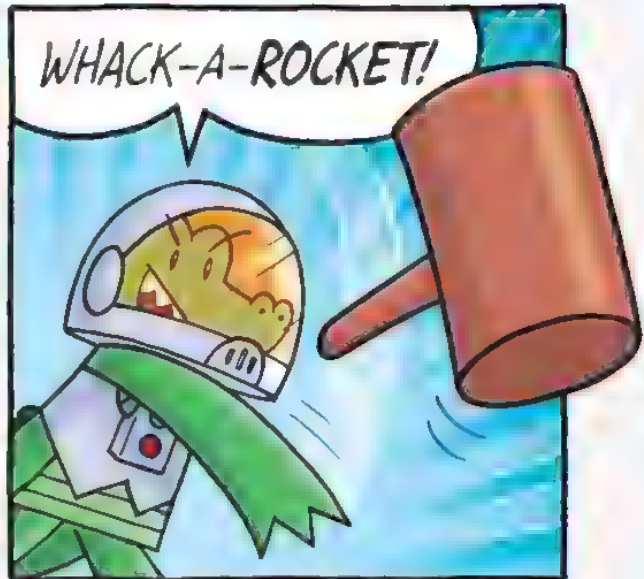
Behold, my  
**INSTRUMENT of DOOM!**



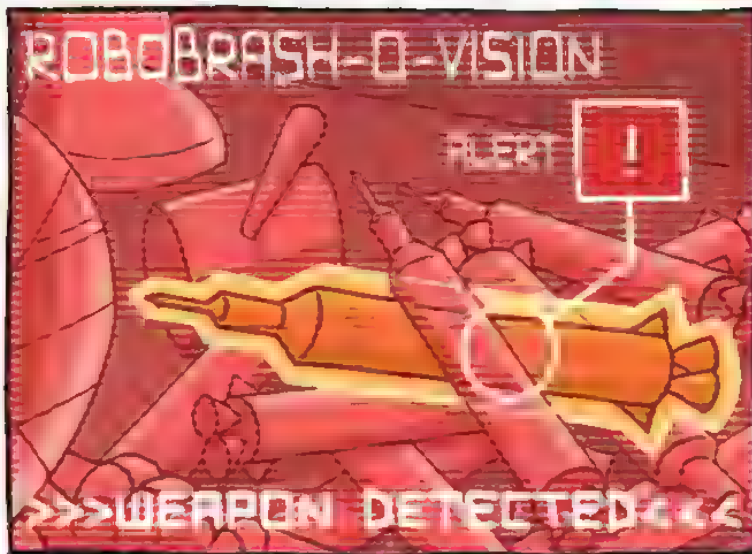
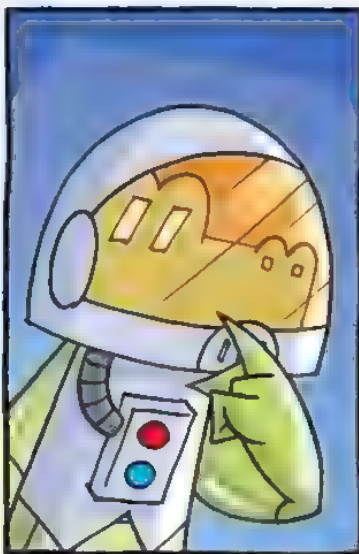
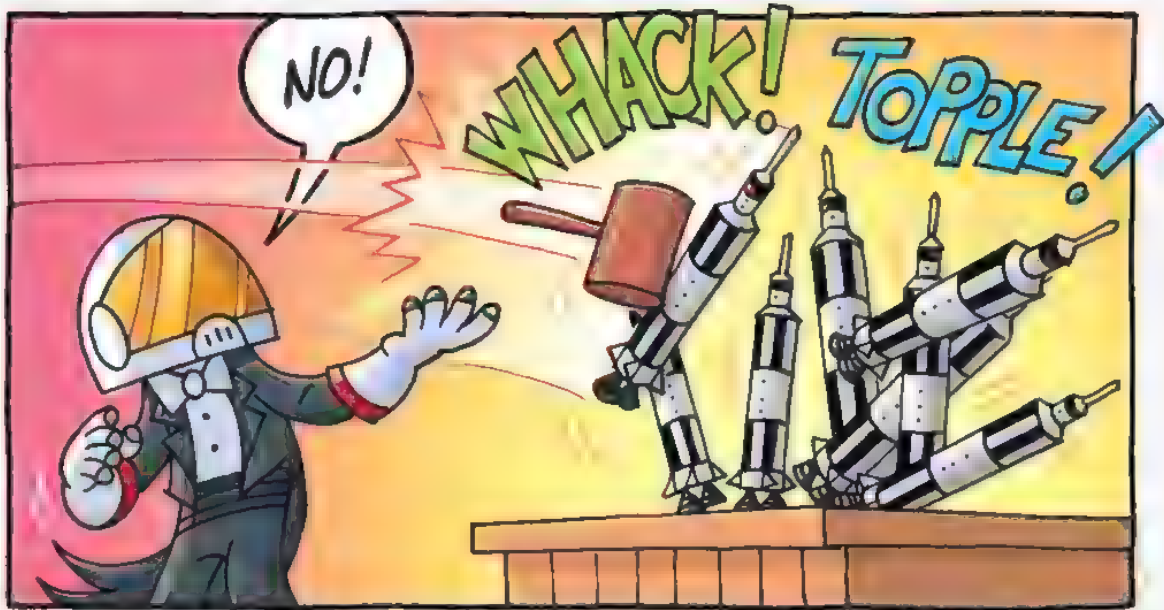
His rocket super weapon! We have to **NEUTRALIZE** it!

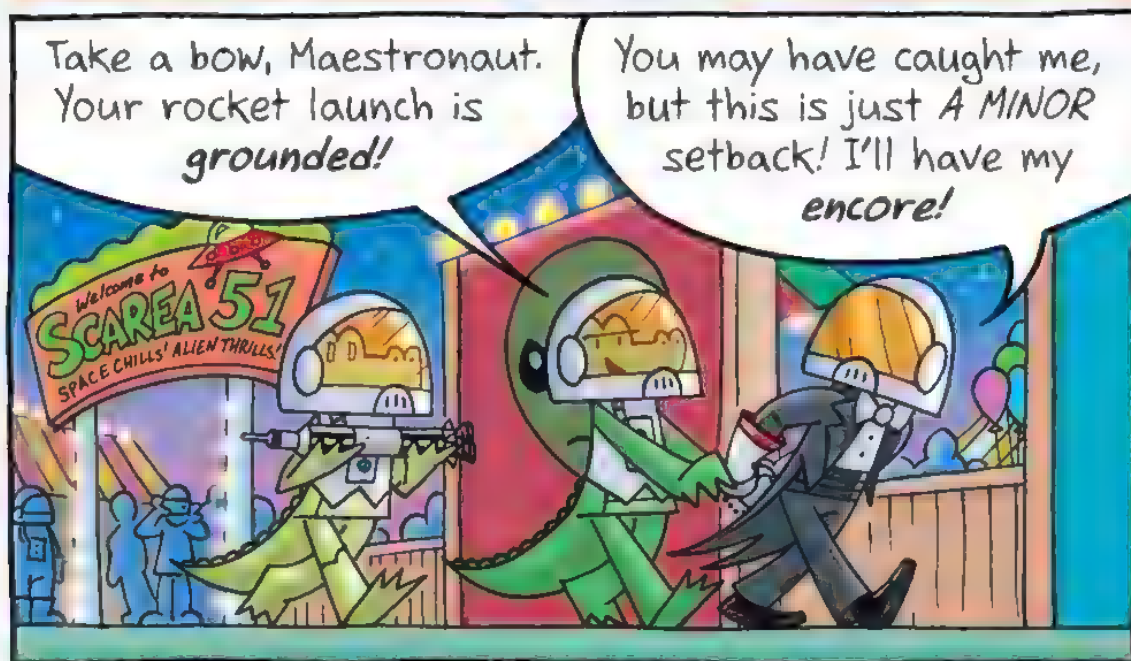
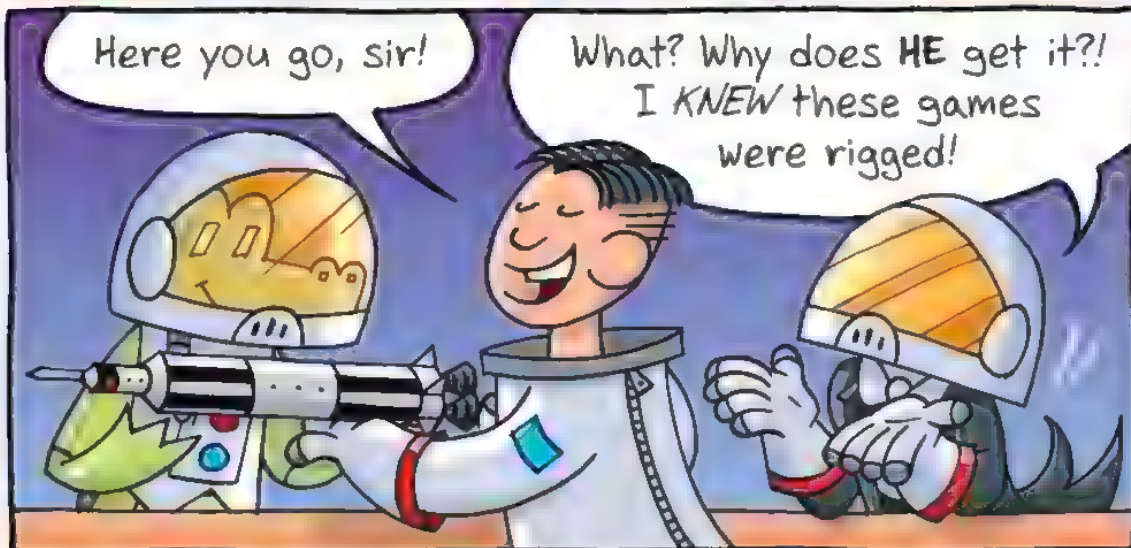
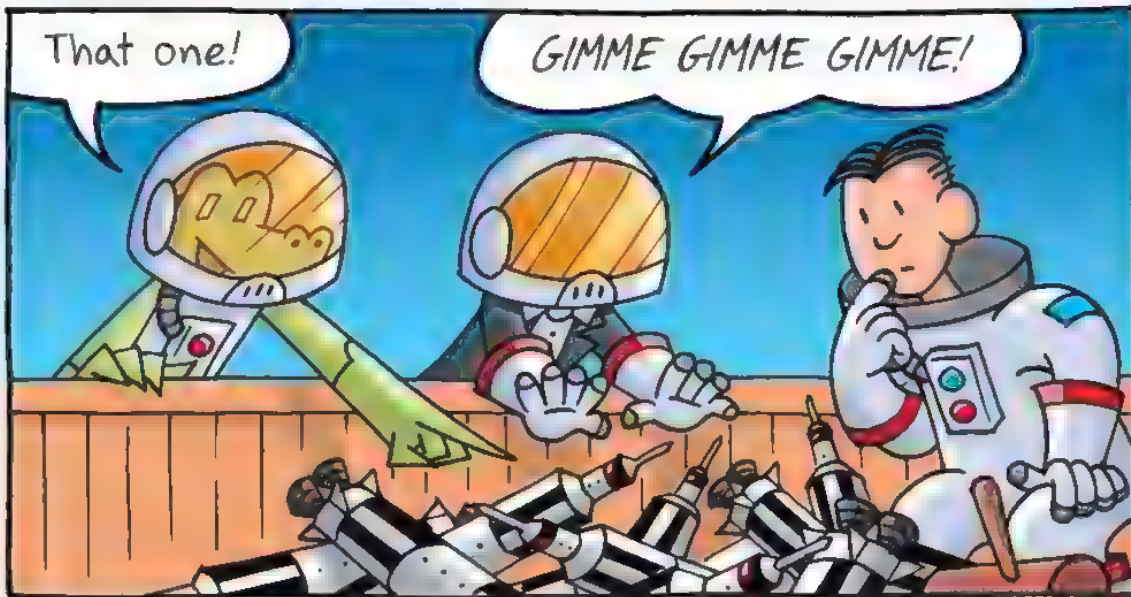


**WHACK-A-ROCKET!**









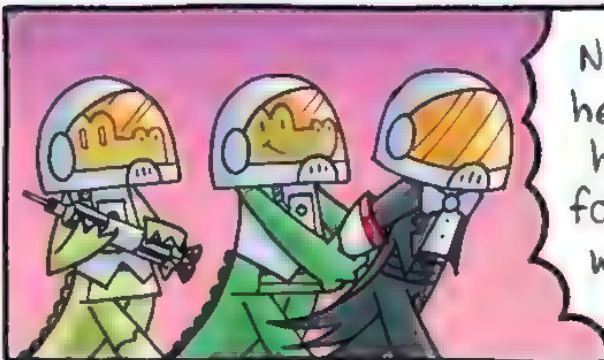


## Chapter 5

Late last night, a villain called the **MAESTRONAUT** had his plan to launch an instrument of doom **THWARTED!**



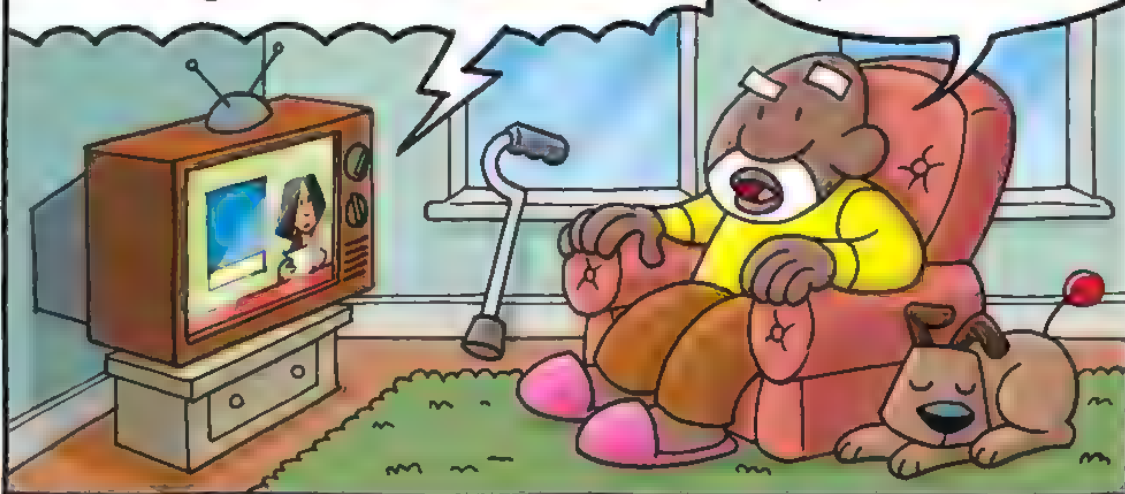
LOW NEWS NOW — EVENING UPDATE — ACTION NEWS NOW — EVE



No one knows what crime he was orchestrating with his tiny rocket, but lucky for us, the *evil astronaut* was stopped by two **NOT-evil** astronauts.

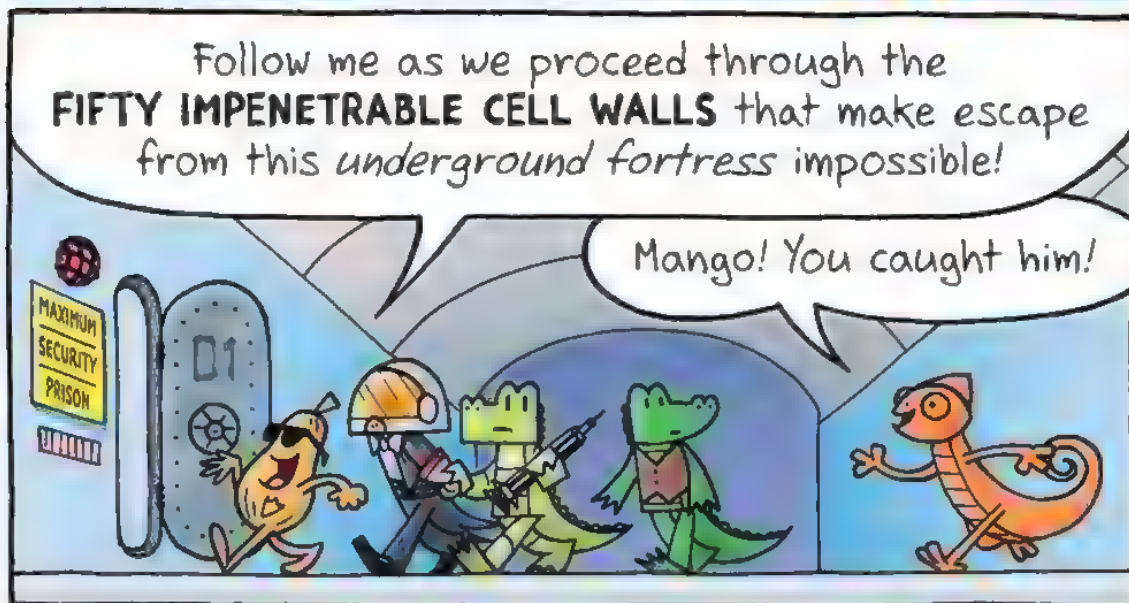
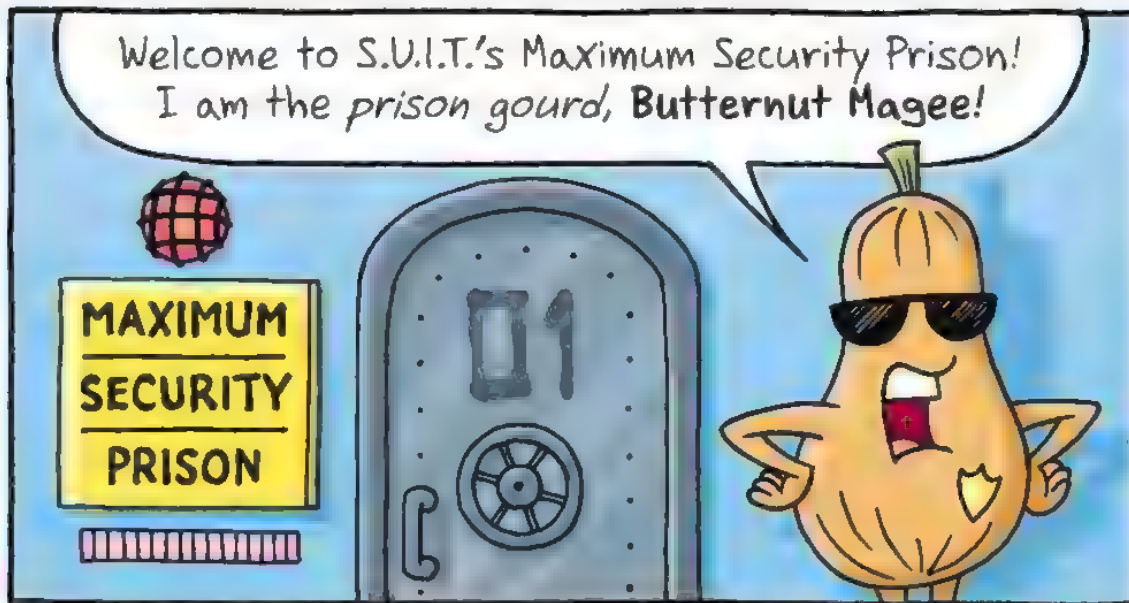
Whoever this do-good duo is, catching bad guys *before* they commit their evil deeds makes them a great **ANTI-CRIME UNIT!**

*Evil astronaut?*  
Villains these days are a buncha *space cases!*

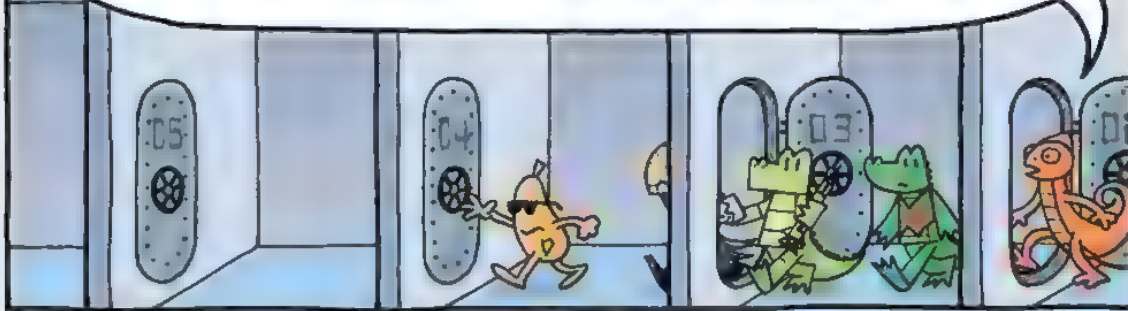








After RoboBrash was chosen to be your partner,  
it made me feel somewhat...rejected.

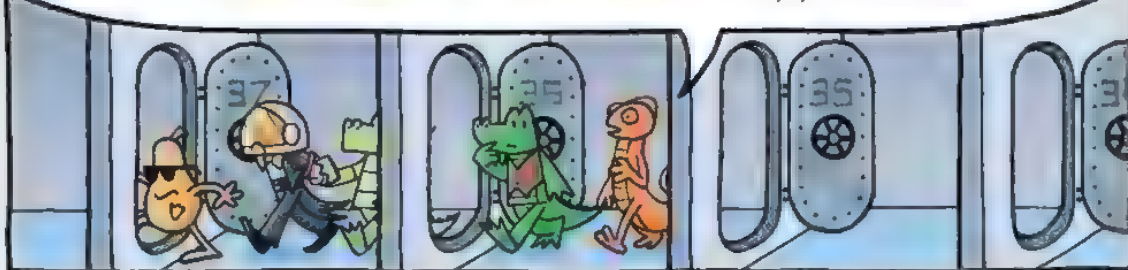


I'm so sorry, Cilantro.  
I didn't know that's  
how you felt.

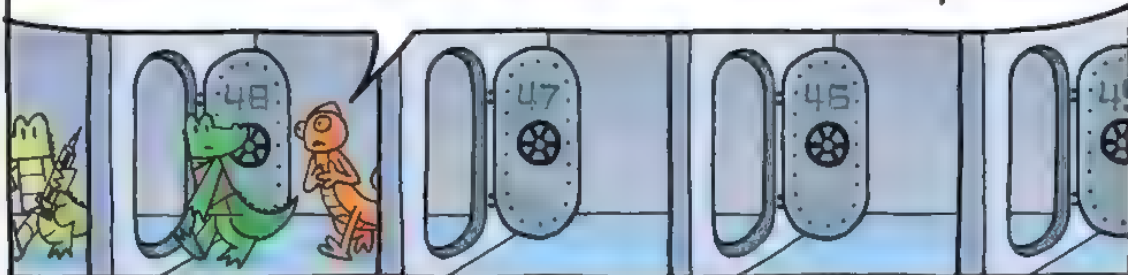
Well, I ran away, I dunno,  
to clear my head.



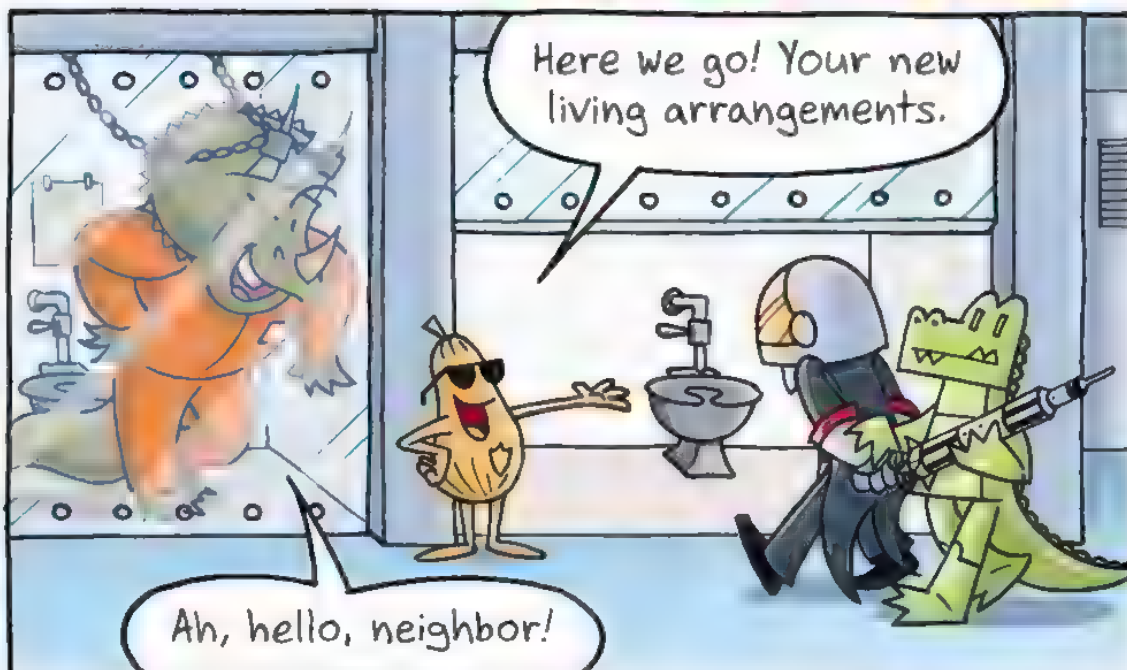
I came across a flyer that made me wonder if  
maybe there was a...different path I could take...  
Somewhere I'd be a little more appreciated.



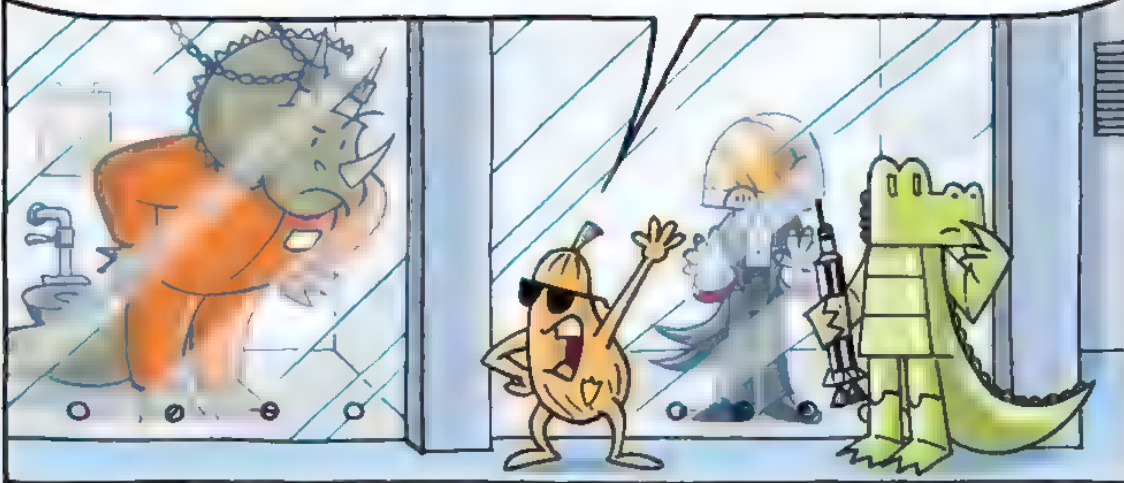
But when I discovered the Embiggener and heard  
that astronaut talk about evil plans, I knew in my  
heart that I had to do what I could to *stop* him.



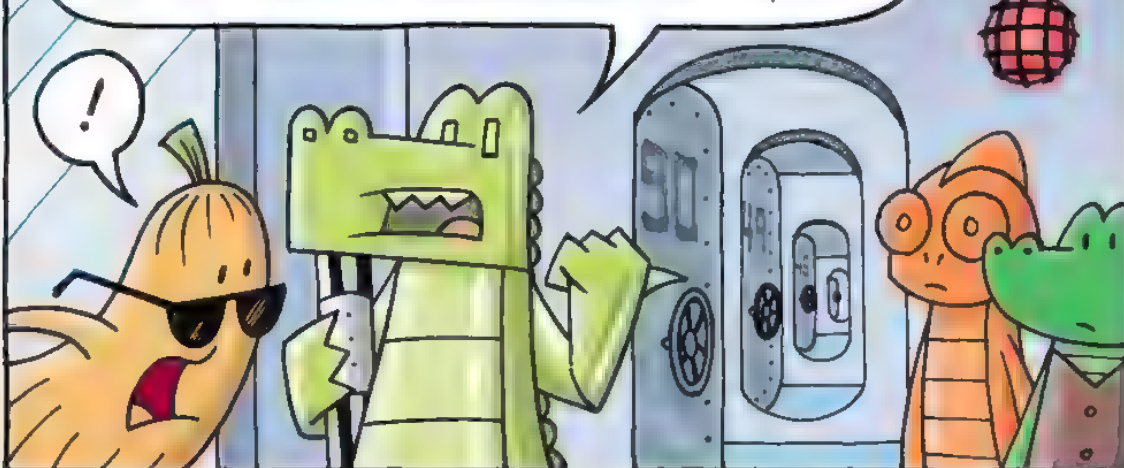




HA! There's no escaping *THIS* place, Houdino. Nobody can break through fifty prison cell walls. *NOBODY!*

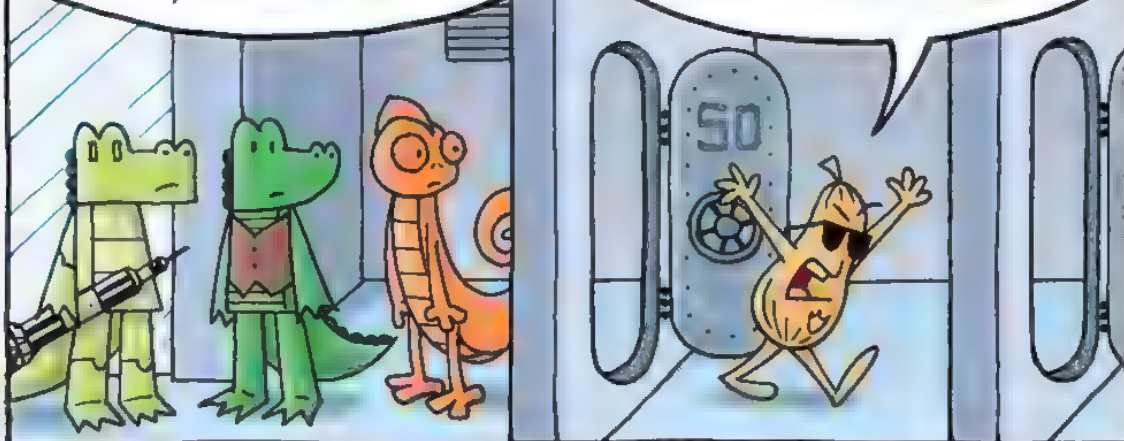


What if all the doors were left open?



None of you thought to lock the doors behind you? UGH!

Now I gotta walk ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE OTHER END!





Anyway, sorry about not telling you all of this earlier, Mango. Especially about the flyer for T.A.I.L.Blazers.

Wait, the flyer was for *T.A.I.L.Blazers*?

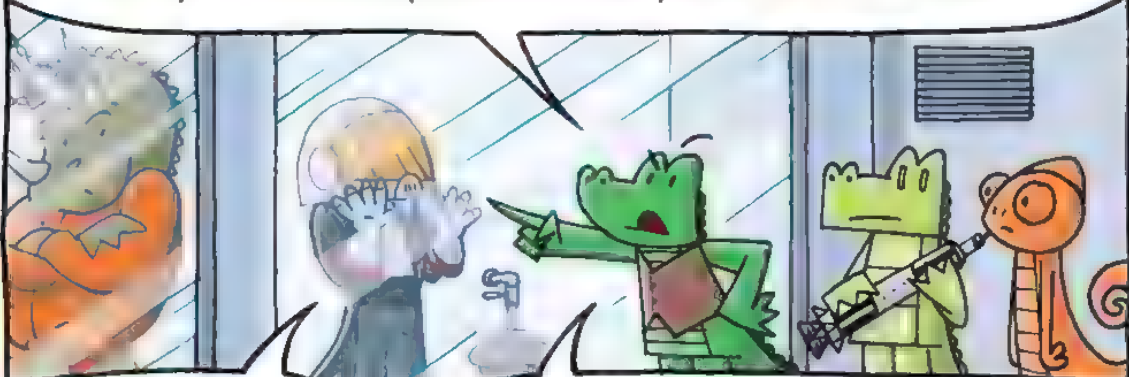


It's what led me to the opera house in the first place.

OH! And I just remembered! It's also why the Maestronaut showed up. *He* found a flyer for T.A.I.L.Blazers, too!



HEY, YOU! You told us T.A.I.L.Blazers was all your idea. Did you come up with it on your *own* or *what*?



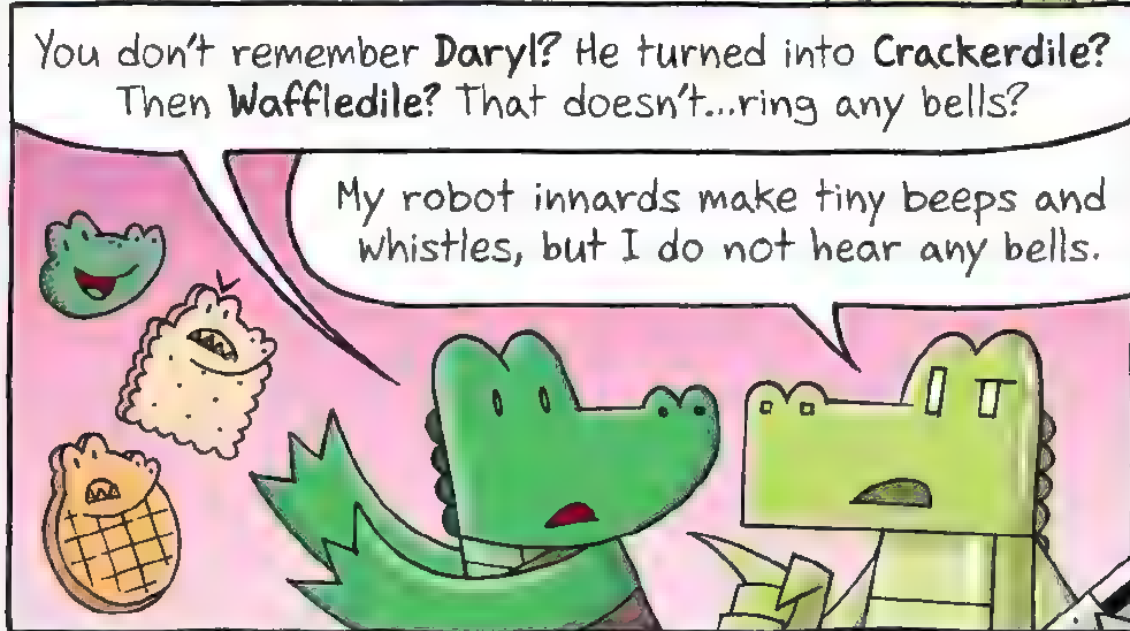
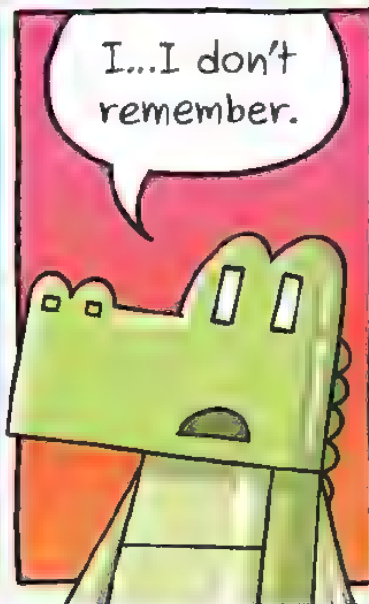
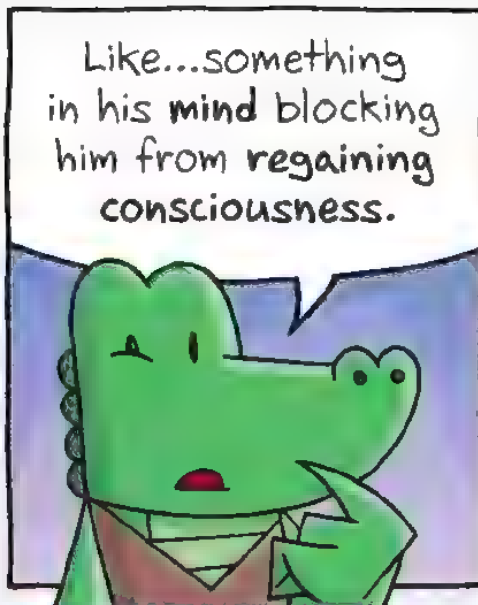
I—I didn't...!

Oh, so you had help! *EVIL* help!





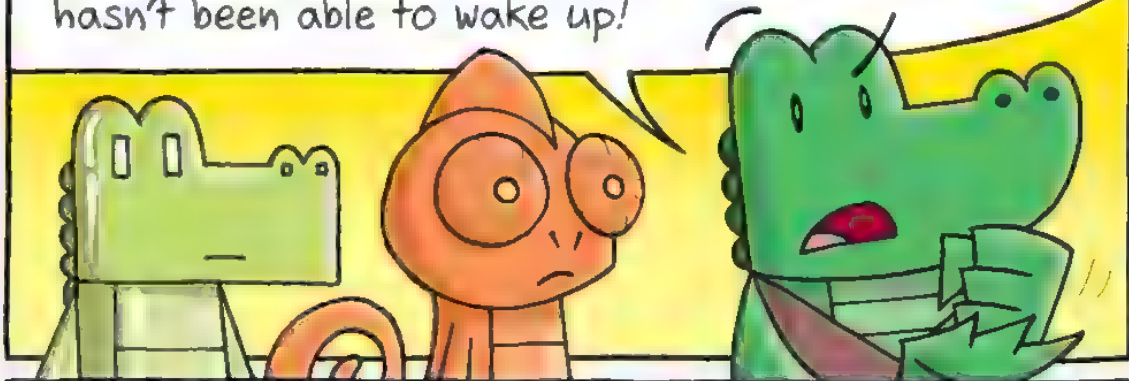




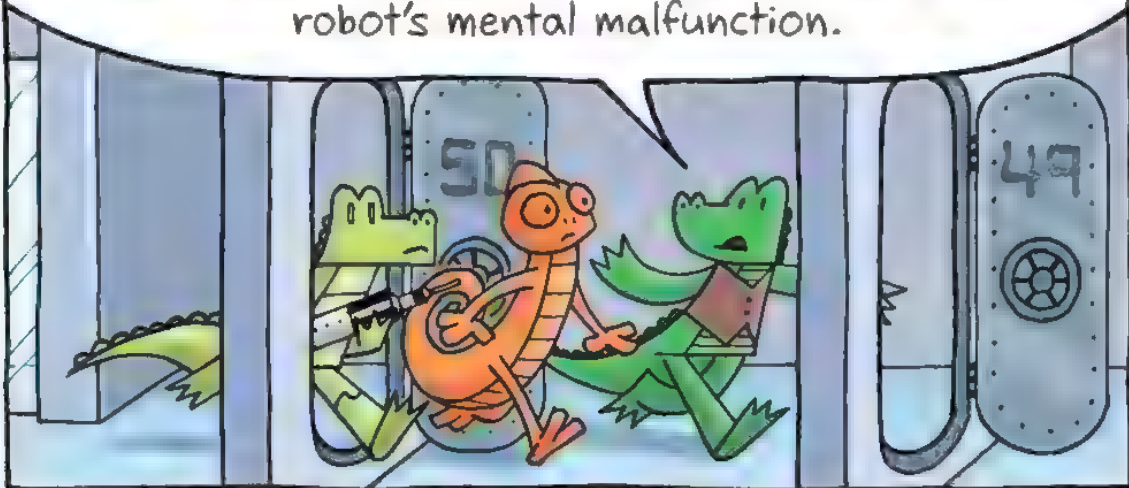




Somehow, RoboBrash has no memory of *anything* that involves his former partner. And I'm guessing it has *some connection* to why the real Brash hasn't been able to wake up!

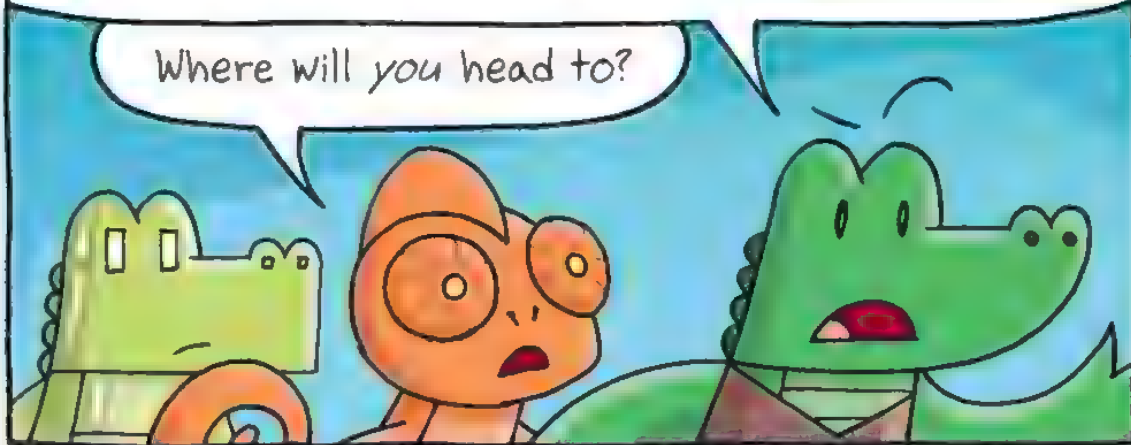


Cilantro, take RoboBrash to Monocle. Since she built him using downloads of the real Brash's memories, she *should* be able to find what's causing the robot's mental malfunction.

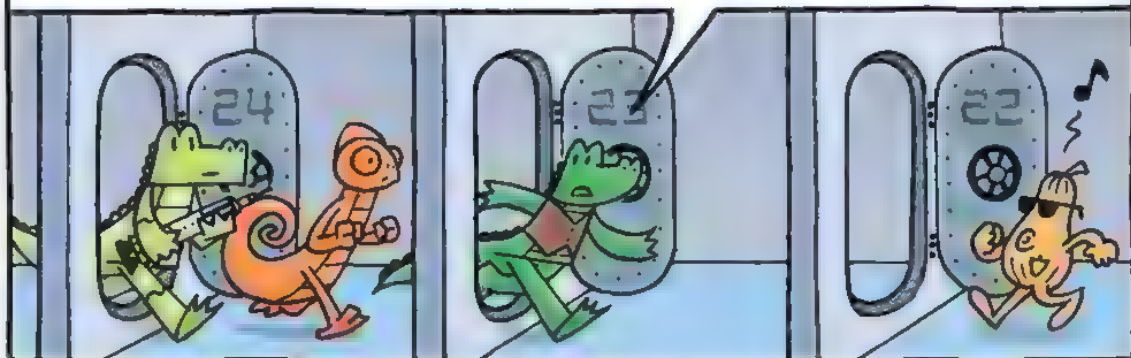


The solution to getting Brash to wake up *could* involve a **memory** that's locked inside RoboBrash's mind. And take that **rocket** while you're at it. Maybe Monocle can figure out what it's supposed to do.

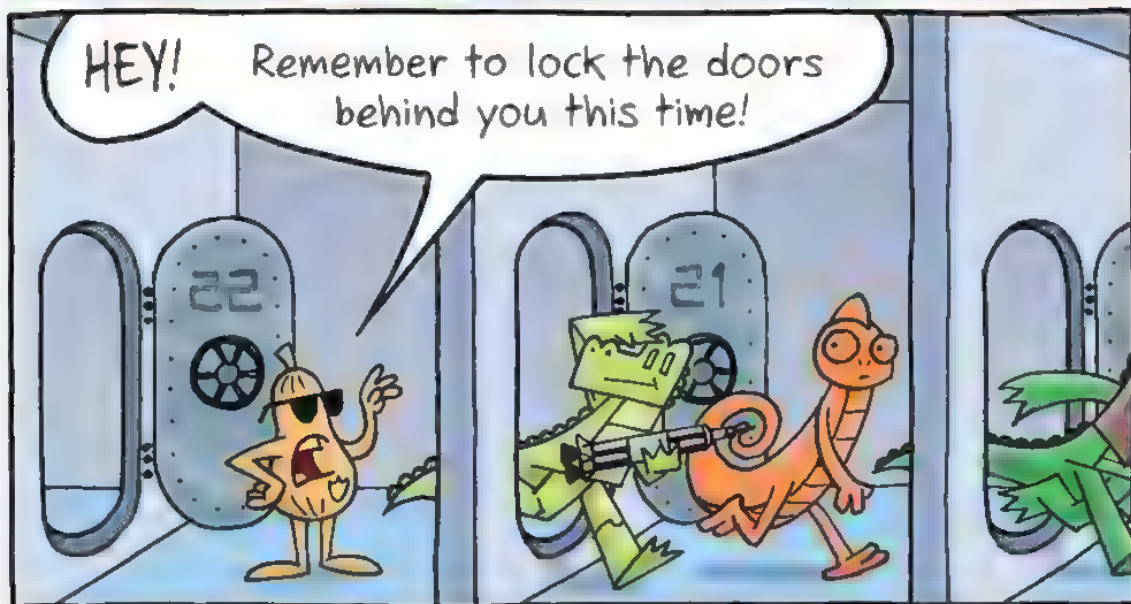
Where will you head to?



I'll head to the **HEAD SCIENTIST** to see if there's anything more that can be done for the *REAL* Brash!

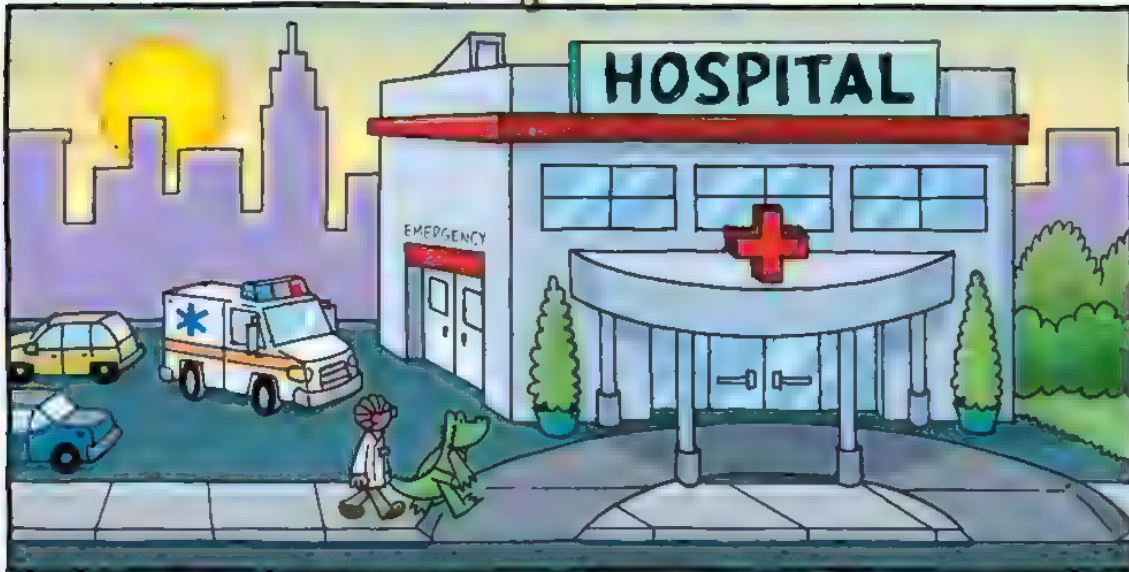


**HEY!** Remember to lock the doors behind you this time!

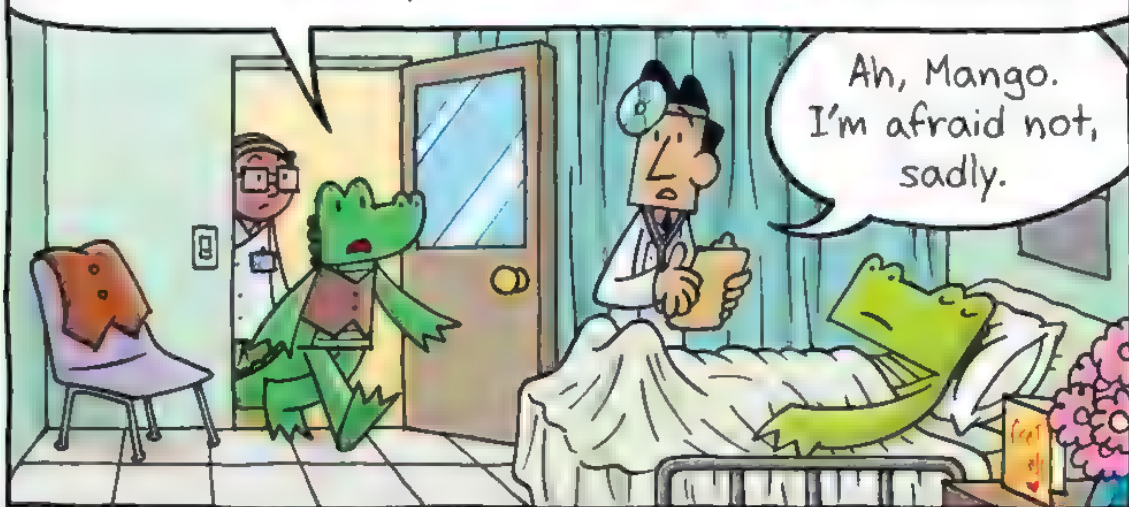




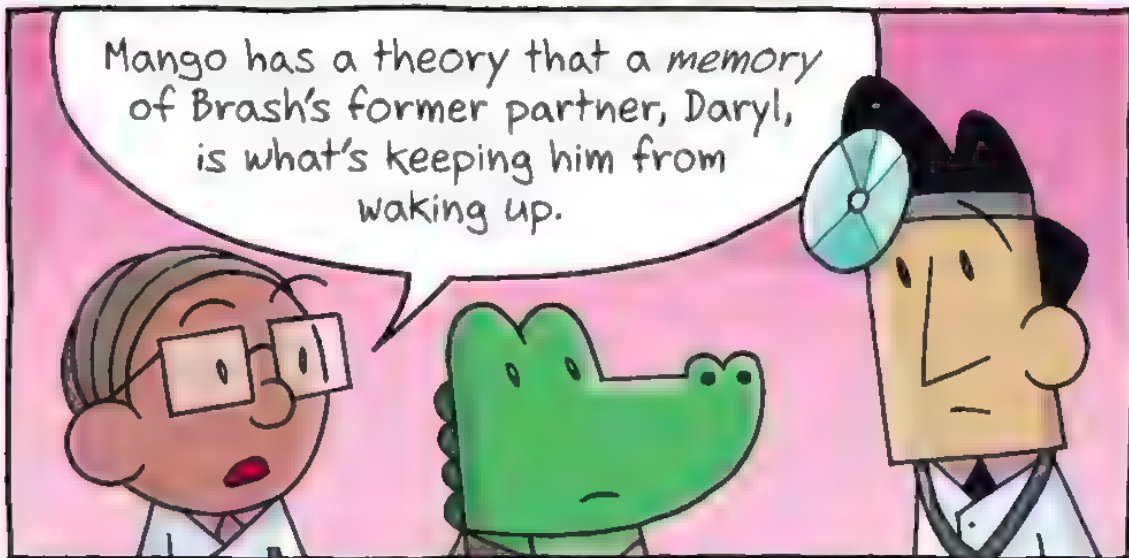
## Chapter 6



Dr. Hardbones! I've brought the Head Scientist from the Science Factory. Any change in Brash's condition?



Mango has a theory that a *memory* of Brash's former partner, Daryl, is what's keeping him from waking up.

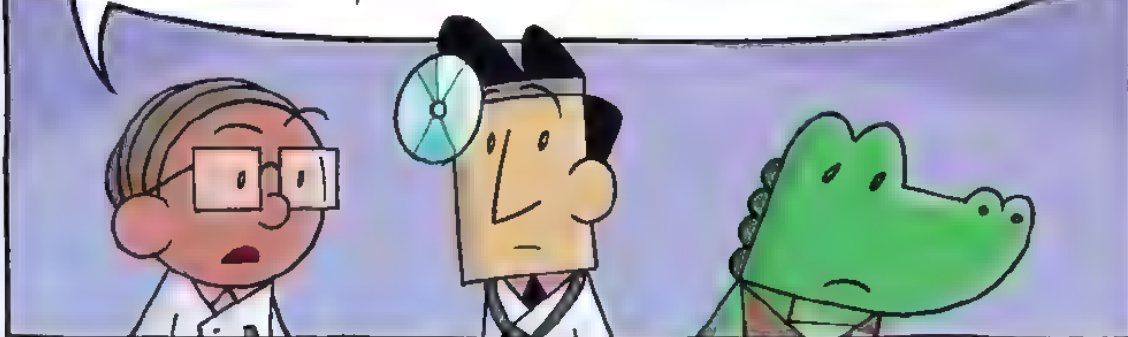


Can that robot copy tell you *which* memory it is?

That's just it. RoboBrash seems to have all of Brash's memories *EXCEPT* any memories related to Daryl!



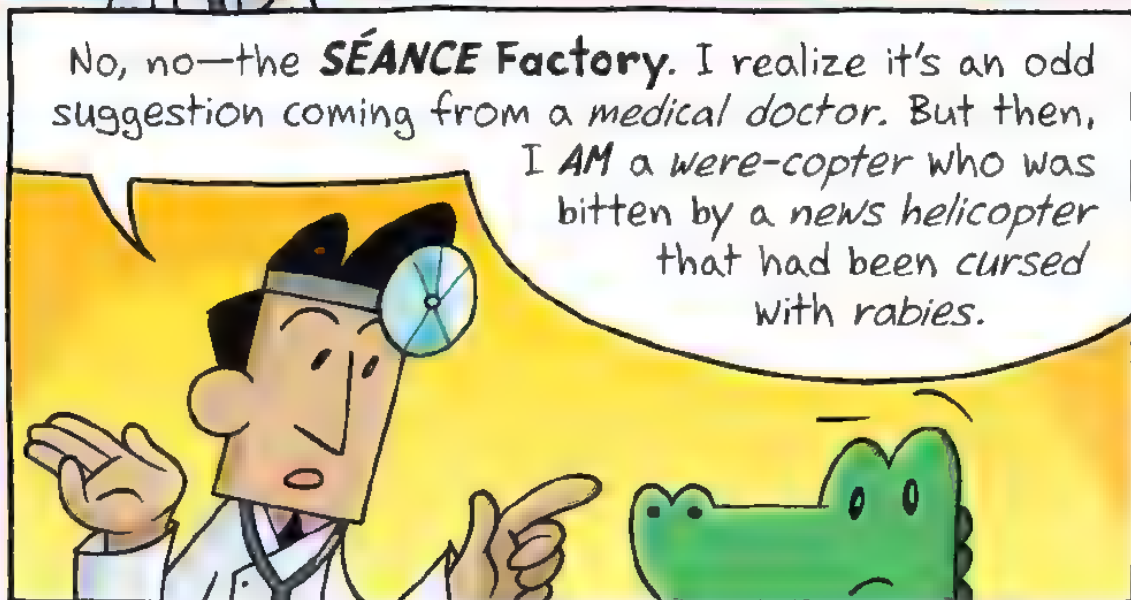
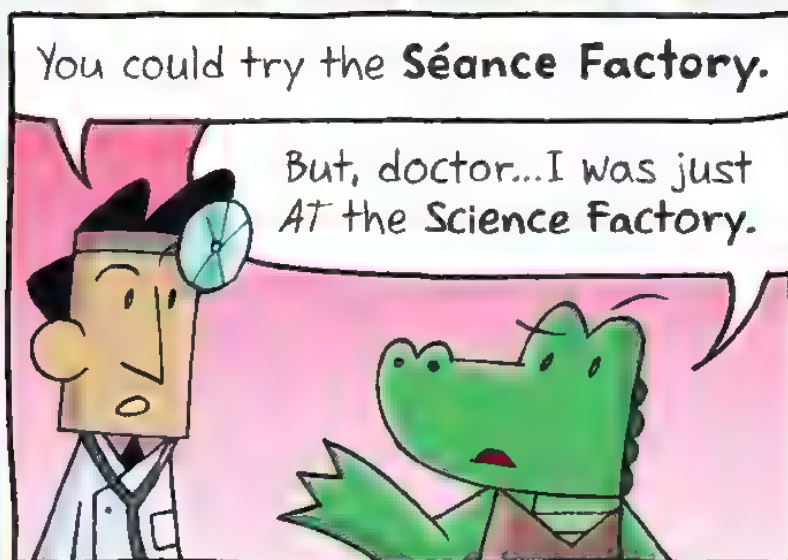
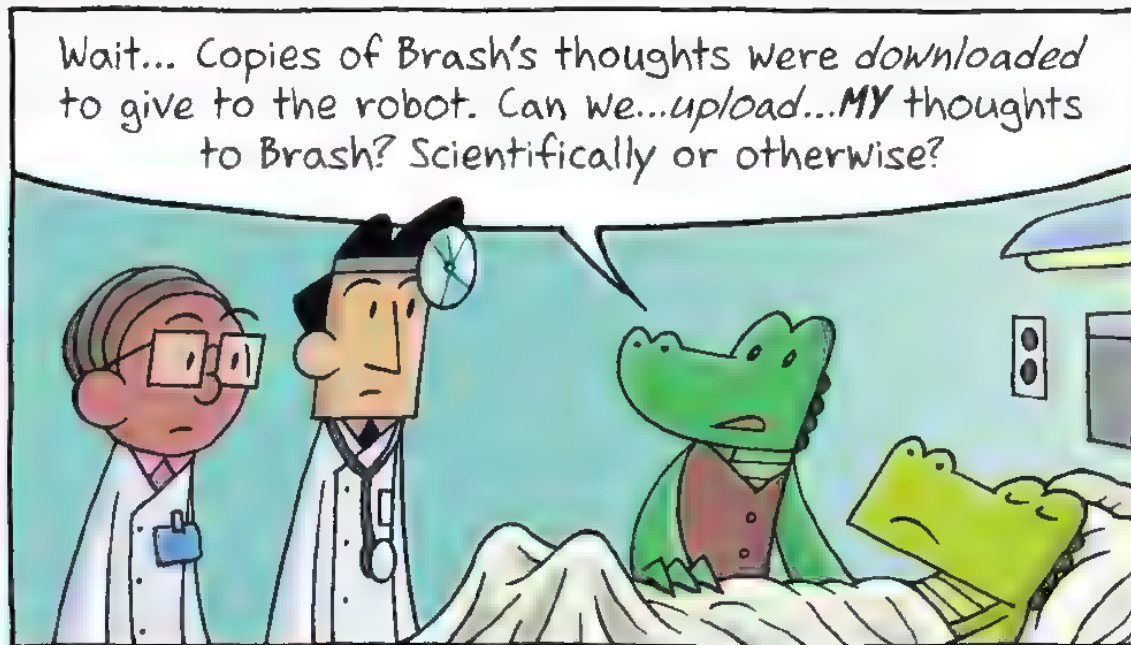
These memories must be so traumatic for Brash that not only are they keeping him from *waking up*, but his mind may have *blocked* them from getting copied over to the robot.



Monocle is having a look at RoboBrash back at S.U.I.T. But even if she discovers the memory that's the cause of RoboBrash's problems...how do we find that *SAME* memory inside *THIS* Brash's mind?



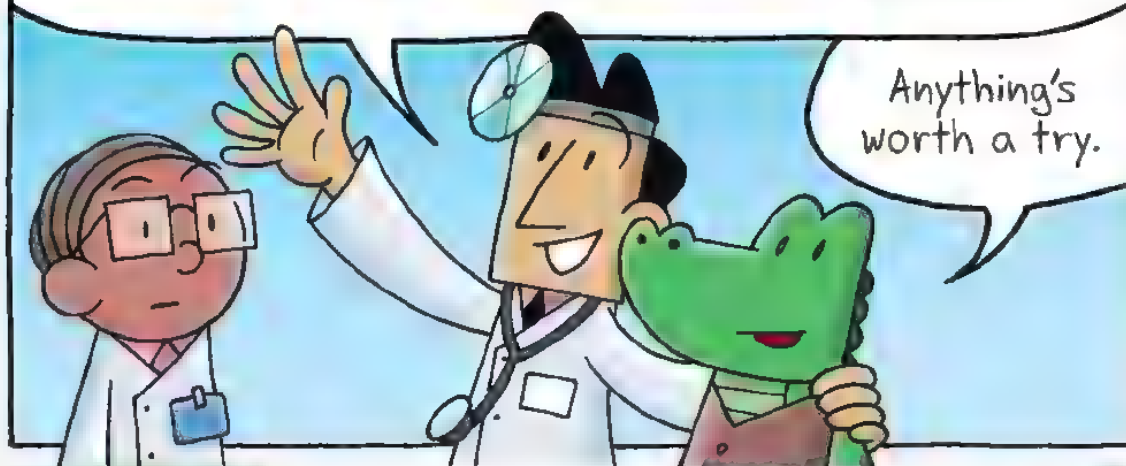




So, at this Séance Factory I'll be helped by a...mystic?



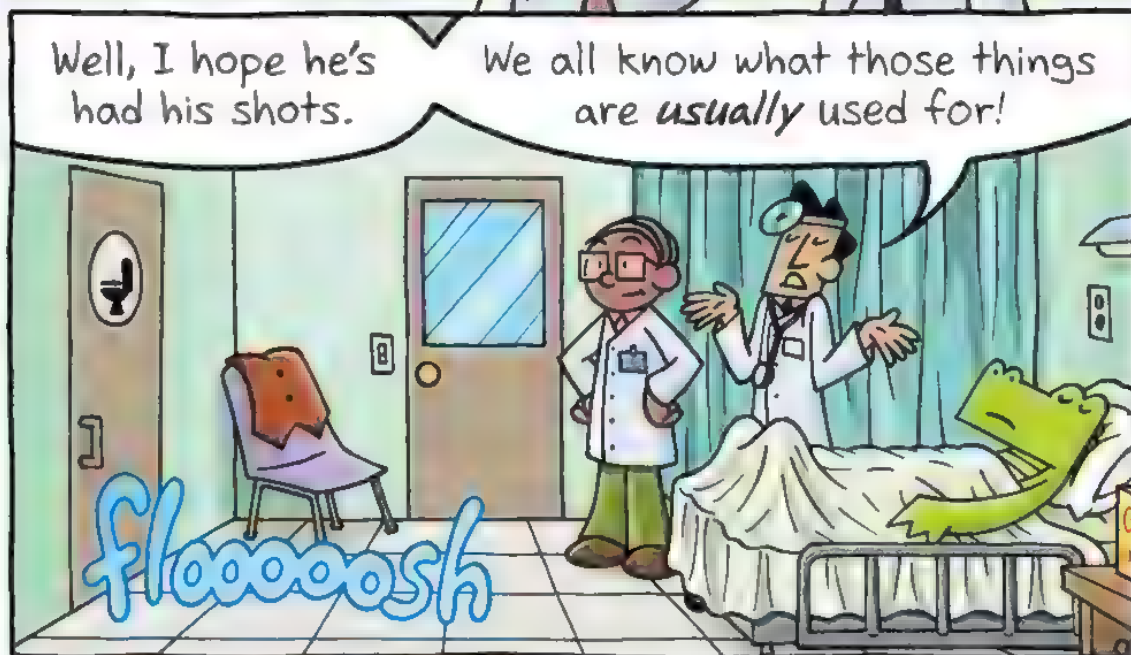
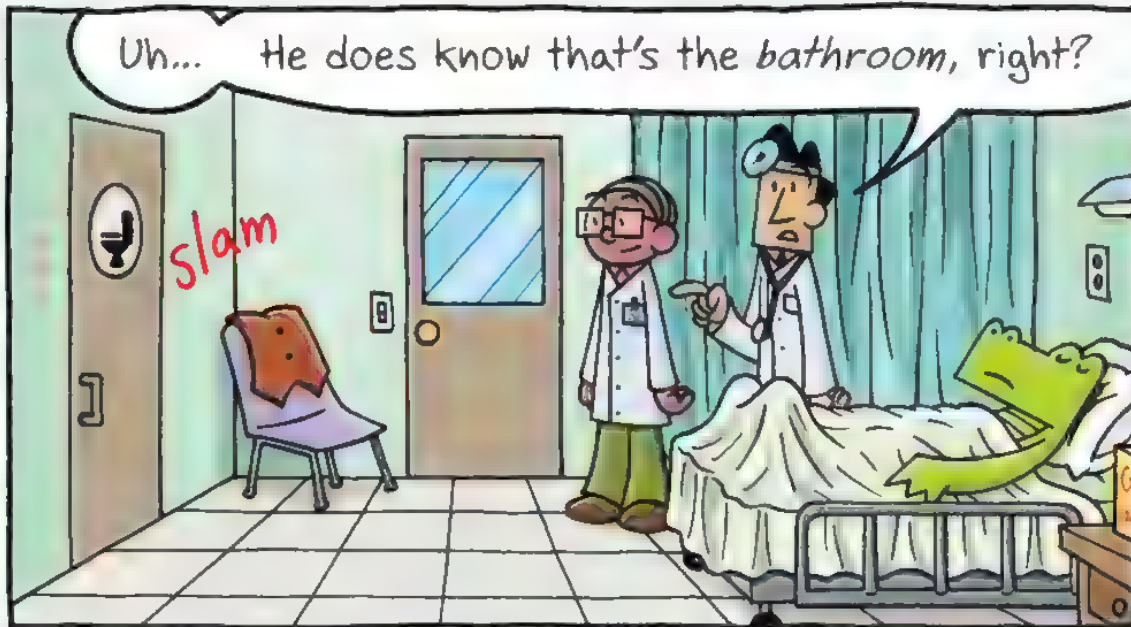
Well, yes, the **MEDIUM** there may have some ideas about how to see into Brash's *unconscious mind*.



Thanks, Dr. Hardbones! I'll head to the Séance Factory right away!







## Chapter 7

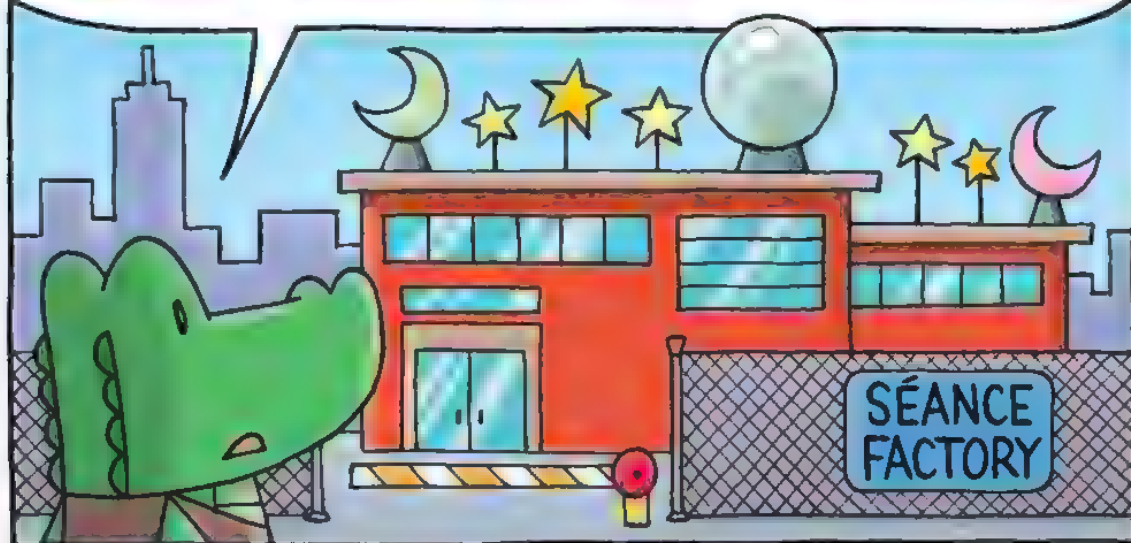
Across town...



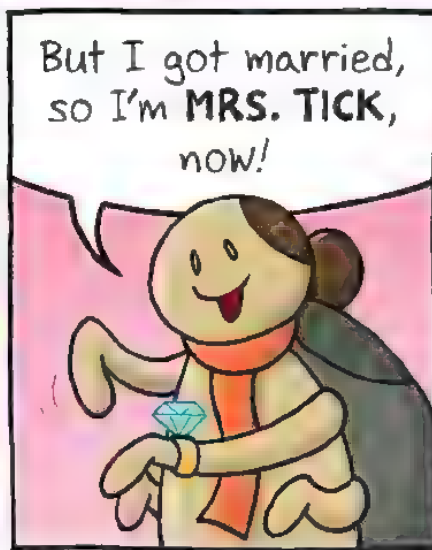
Hey! The bathroom is for customers only!



Huh. There's something familiar about this place.

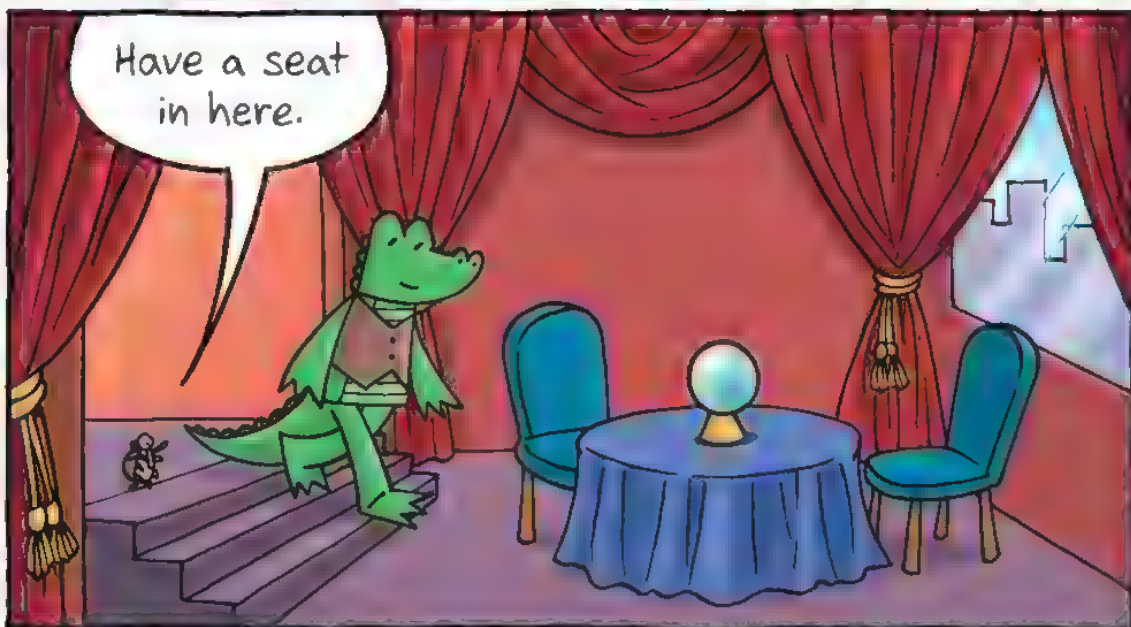
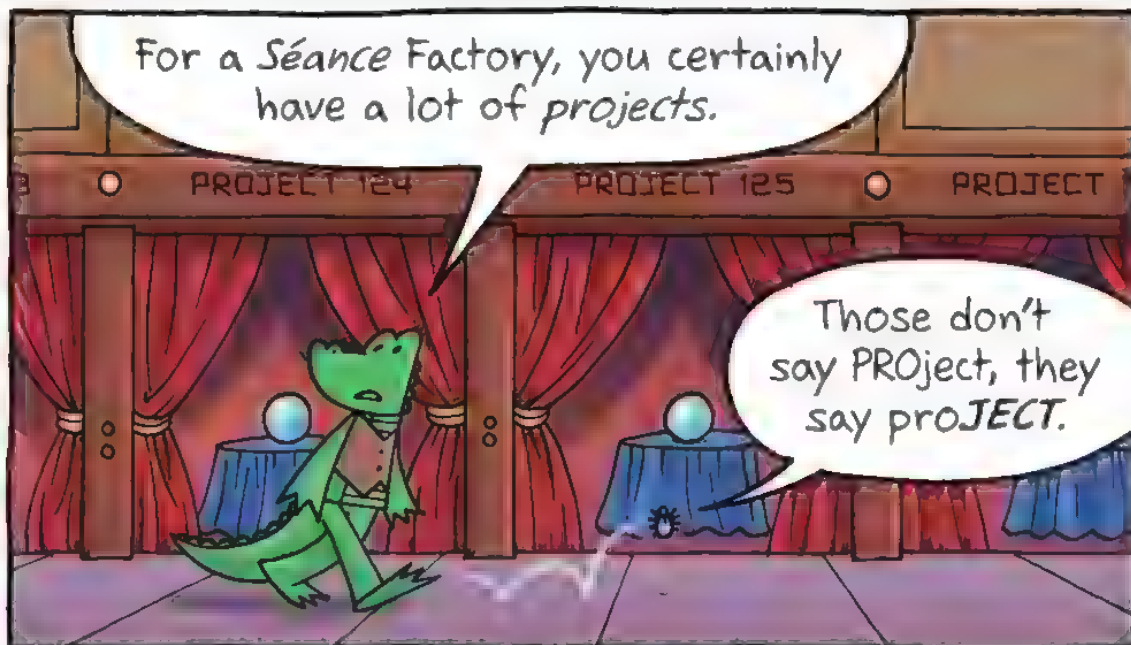


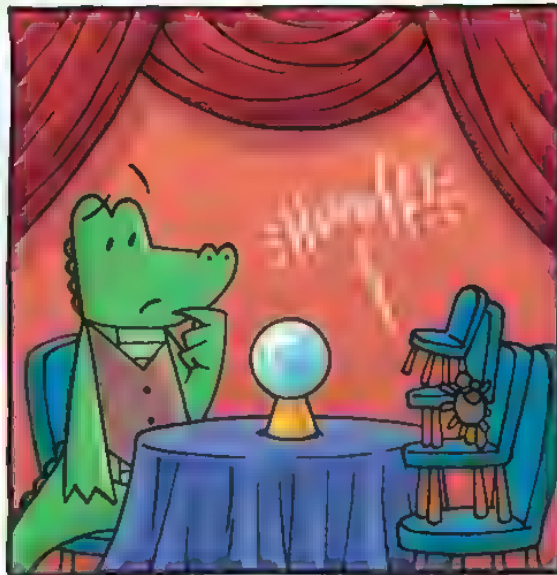
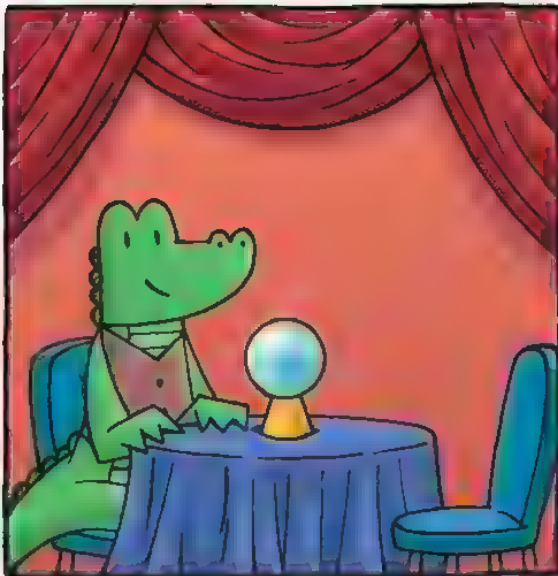






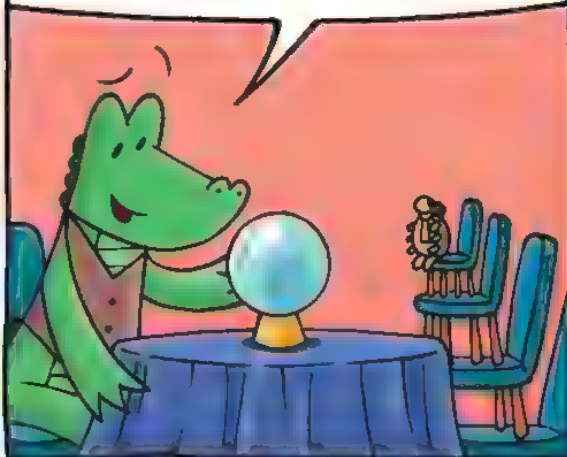








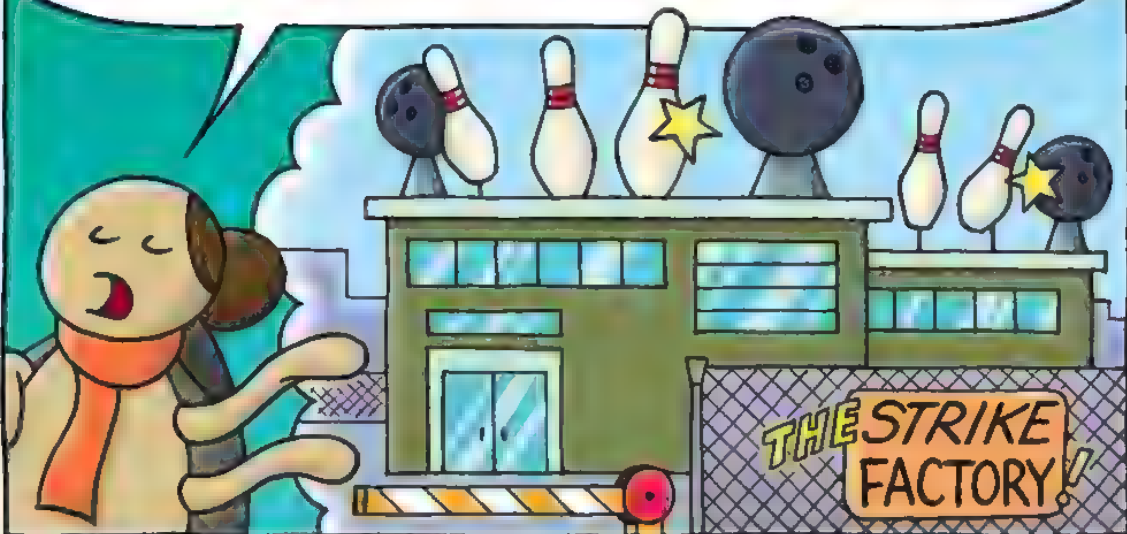
Sorry. Uh, say, that sure is a shiny crystal ball...



Wait a minute—this is a **BOWLING** ball!



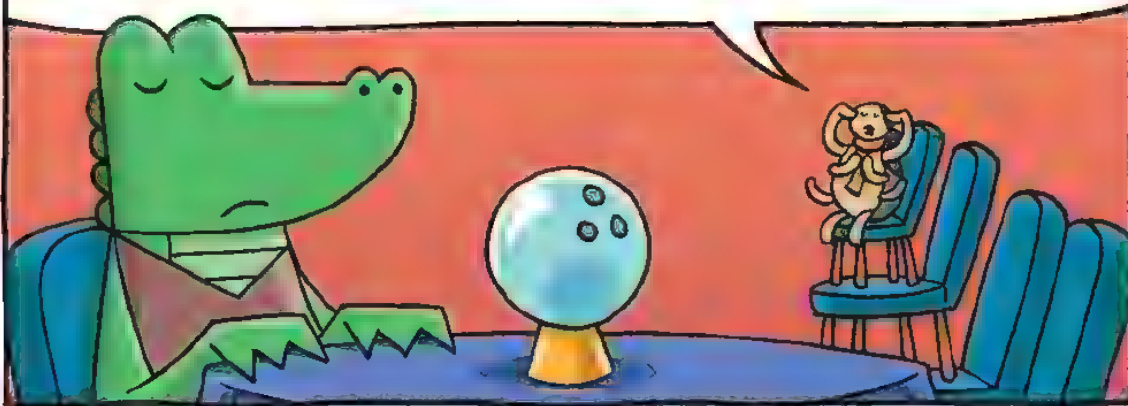
Yeah, this place used to be a *bowling alley*, so we just painted all the bowling balls *silver*.



But that's not important! They're just for *show*, anyway.



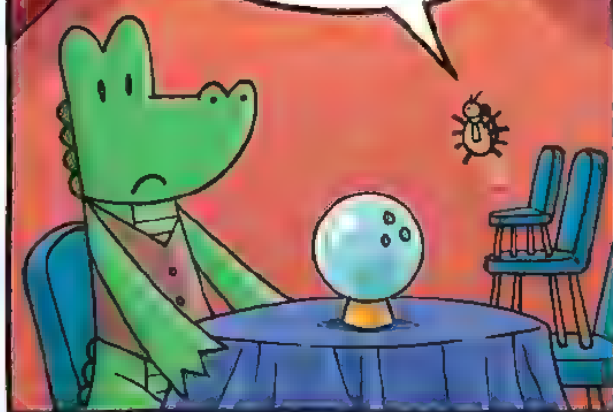
Close your eyes, Mango... Think about your friend Brash, in the hospital... Your thoughts to his thoughts... Your mind to his mind... Picture yourself—



Hey, you're not going to hypnotize me, are you?



**FOCUS, MANGO!**  
Keep your eyes **SHUT!**



Picture yourself  
someplace  
warm...



...comfortable...

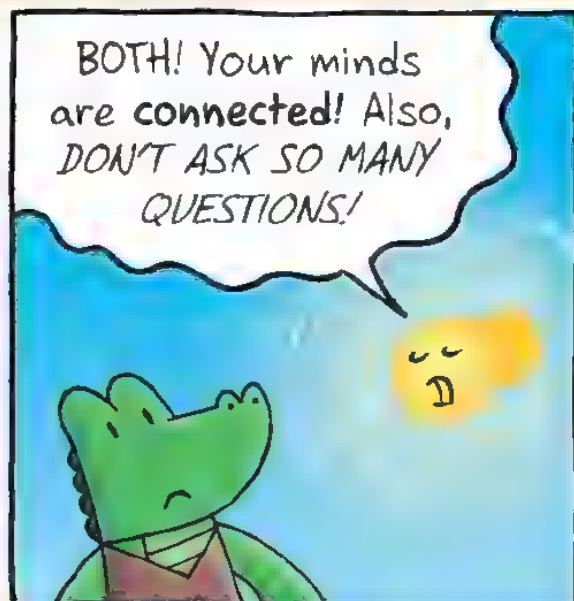
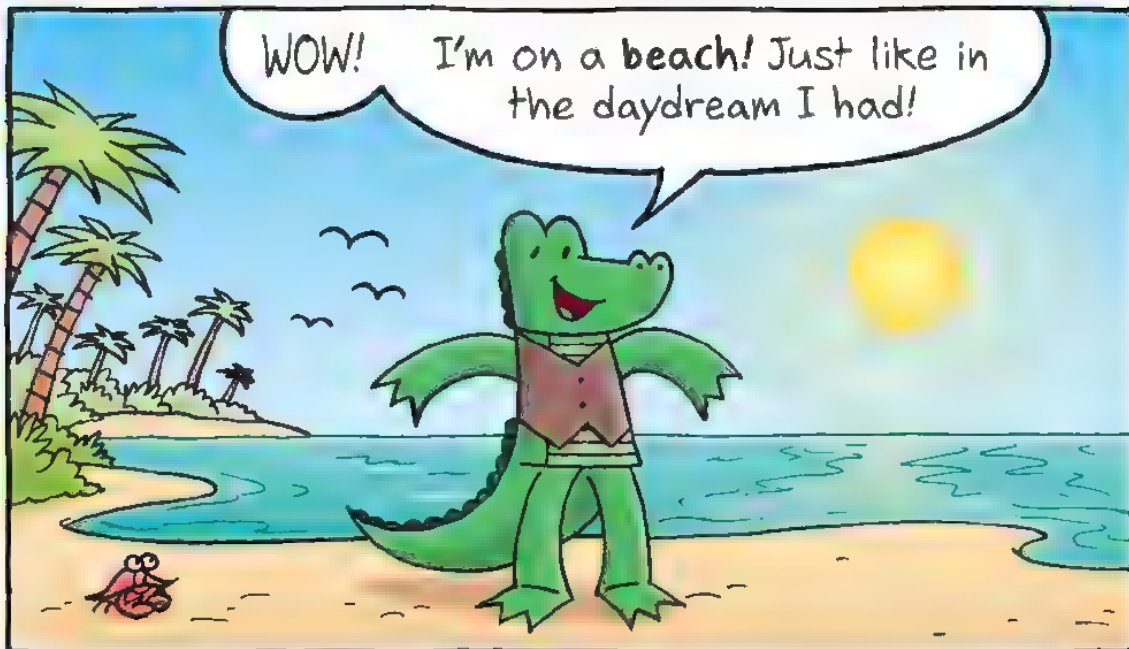
...relaxing...



Now,  
open your  
eyes.

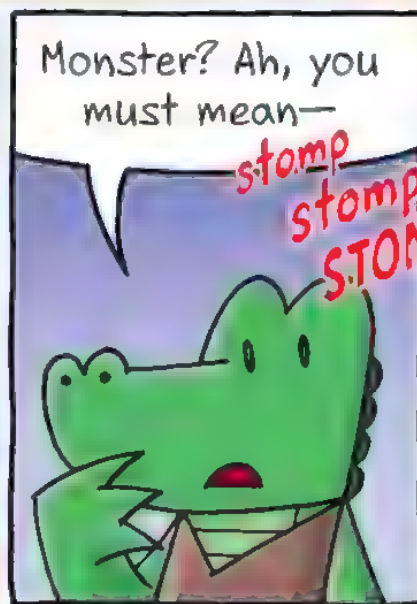
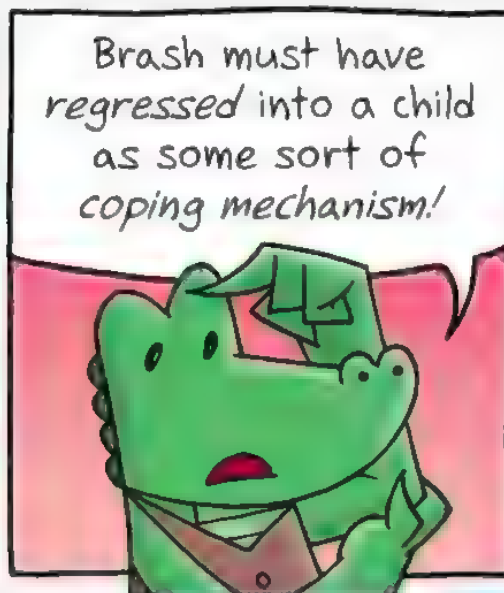


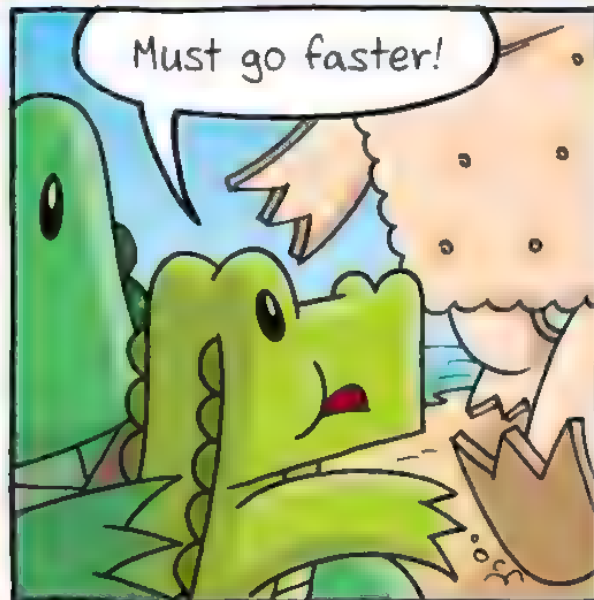




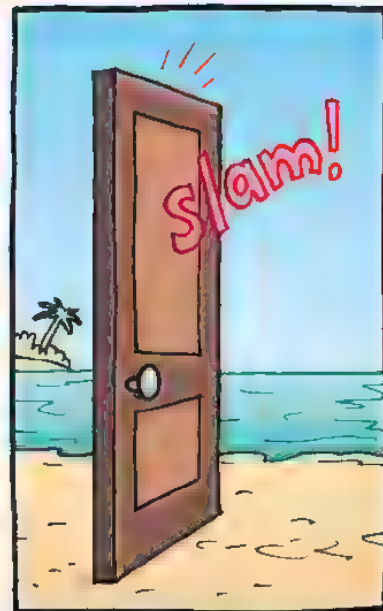
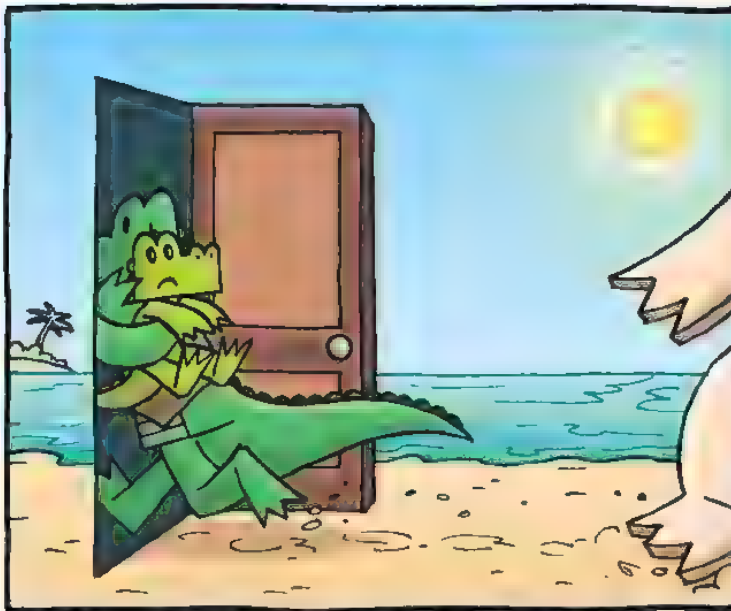










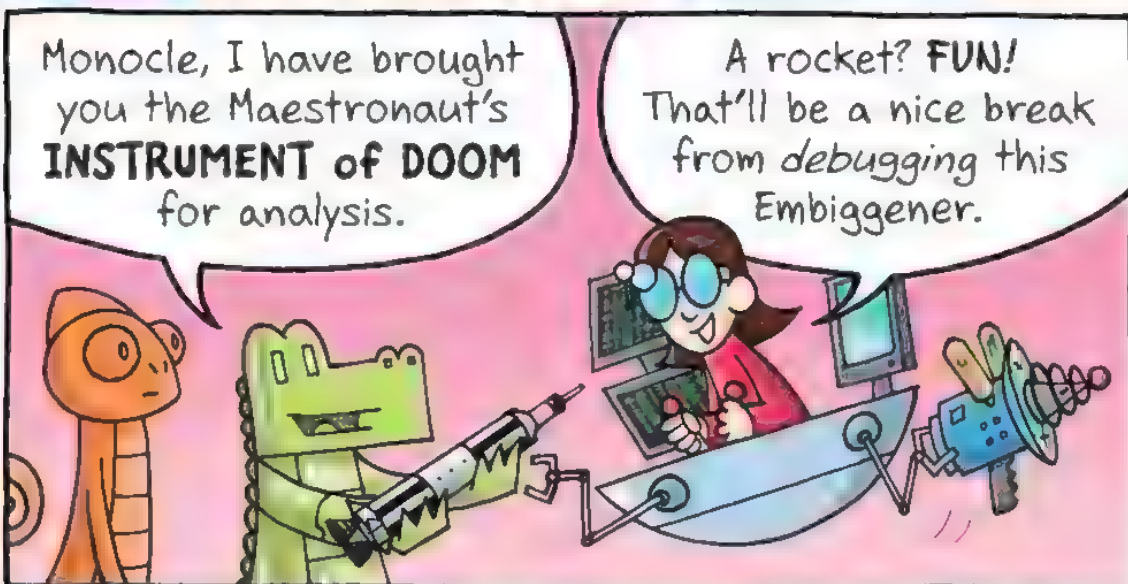
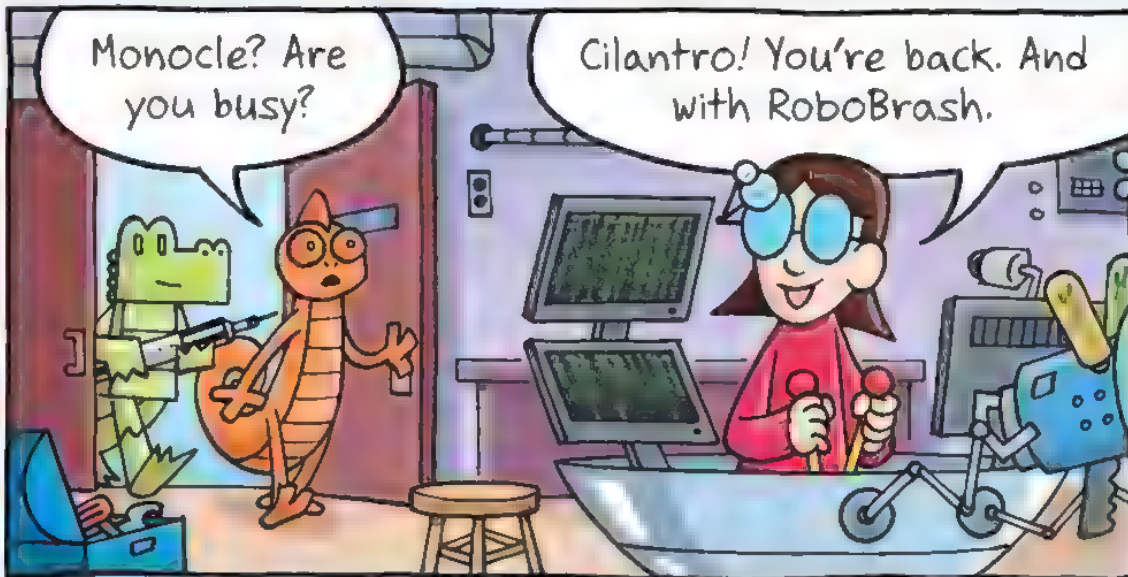
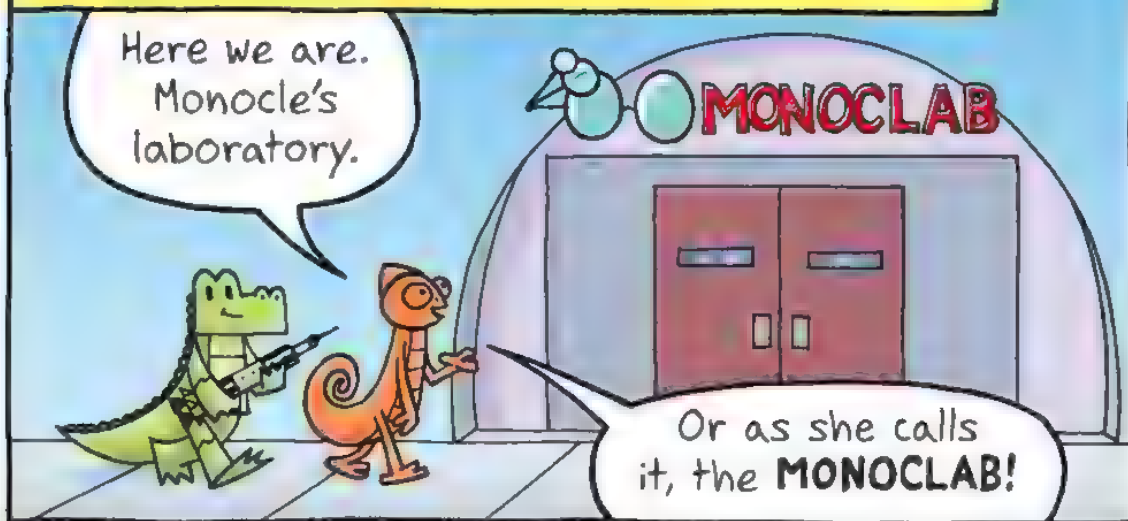




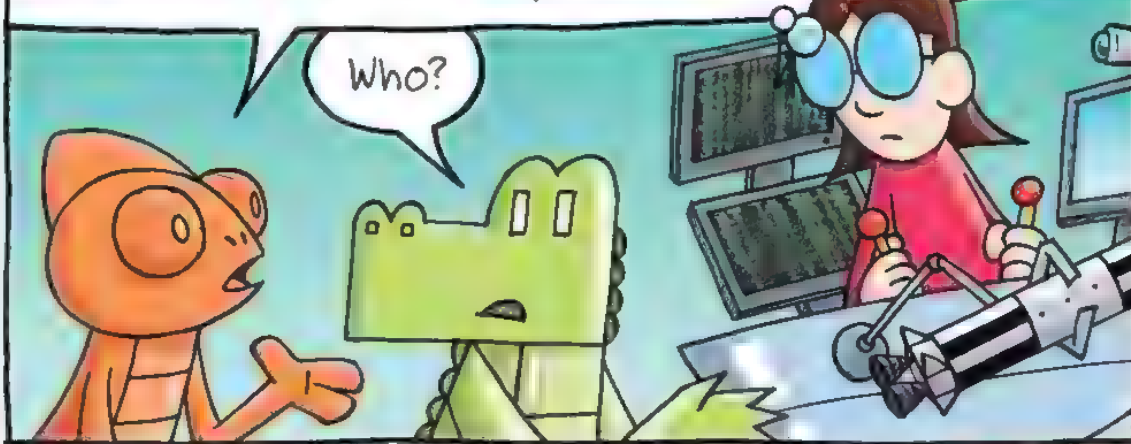


## Chapter 8

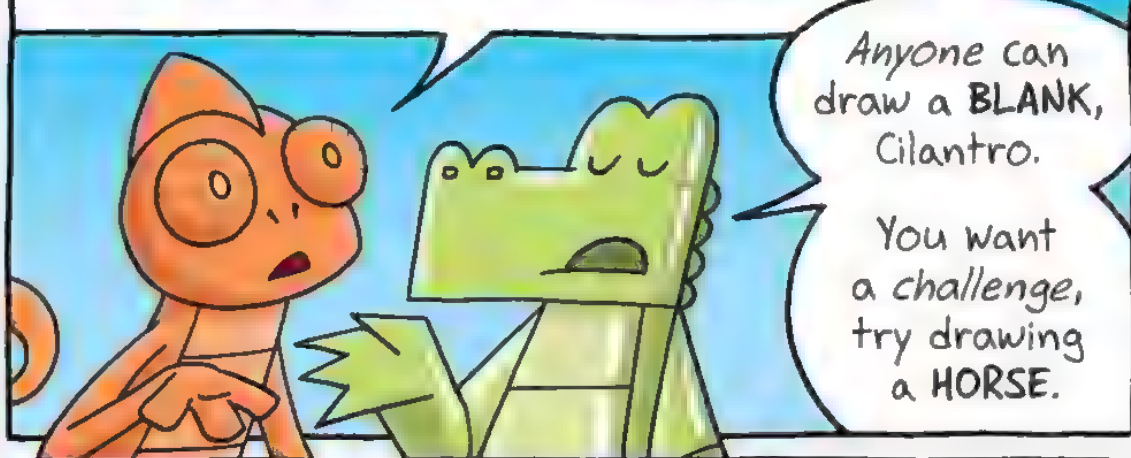
Back at S.U.I.T.'s underground headquarters...



Actually, Monocle, that's not the only reason we're here. RoboBrash seems to have *no memory* of his former partner, Daryl.

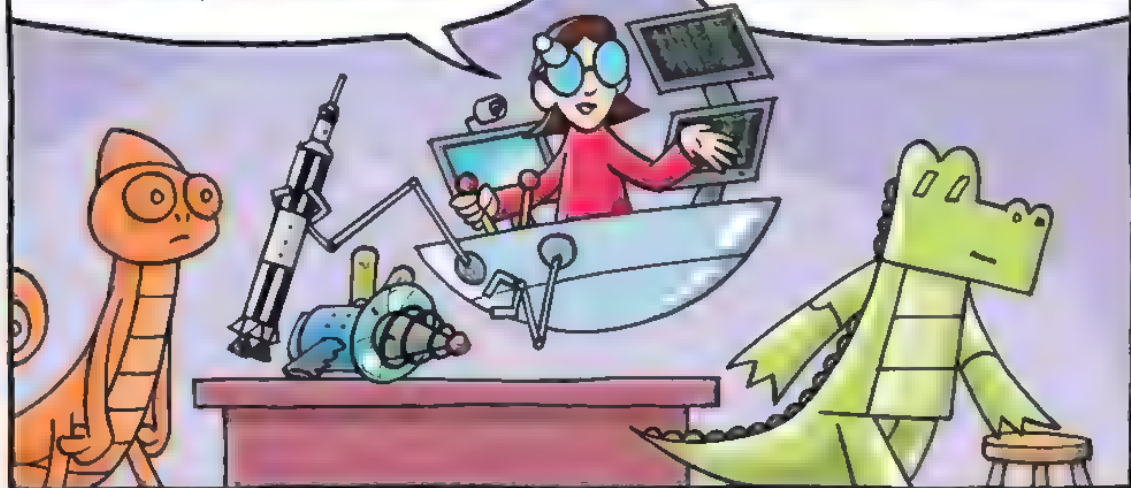


See? Any mention of Daryl, or Crackerdile, or Waffledile and he draws a blank!

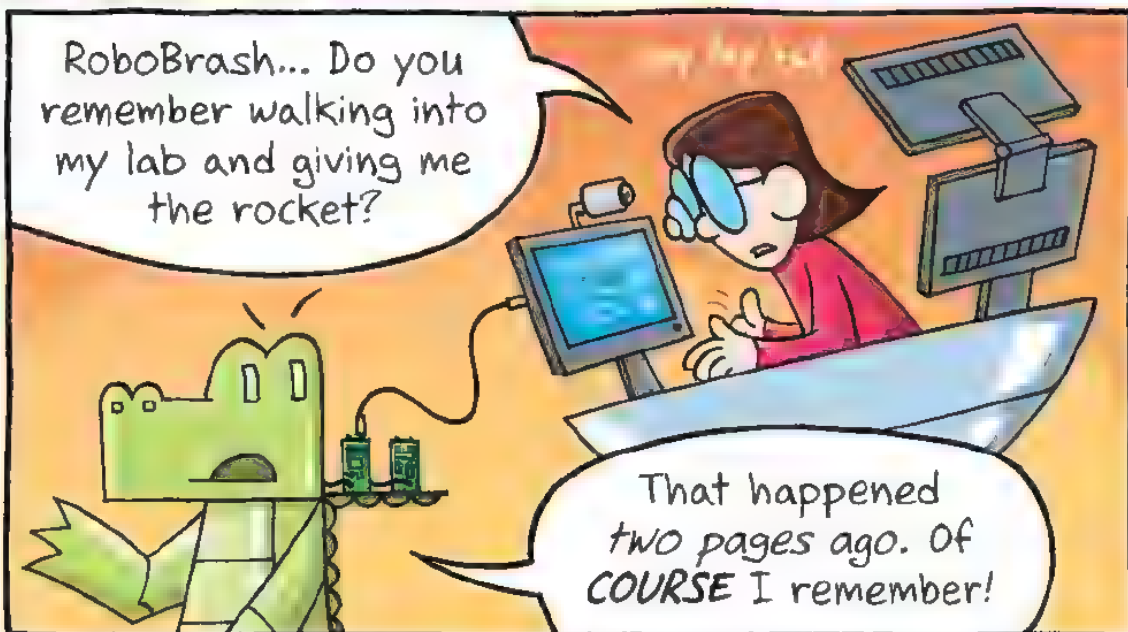
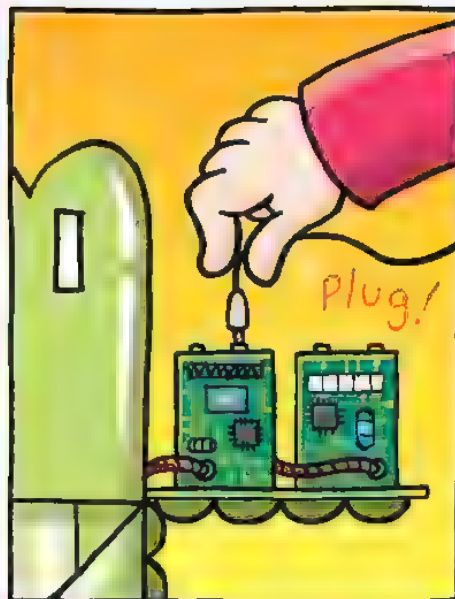
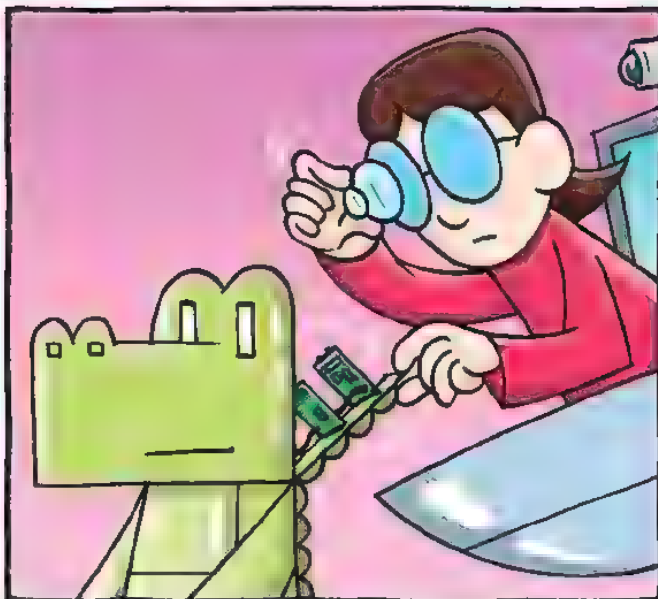


Hmm. Have a seat over there, RoboBrash.

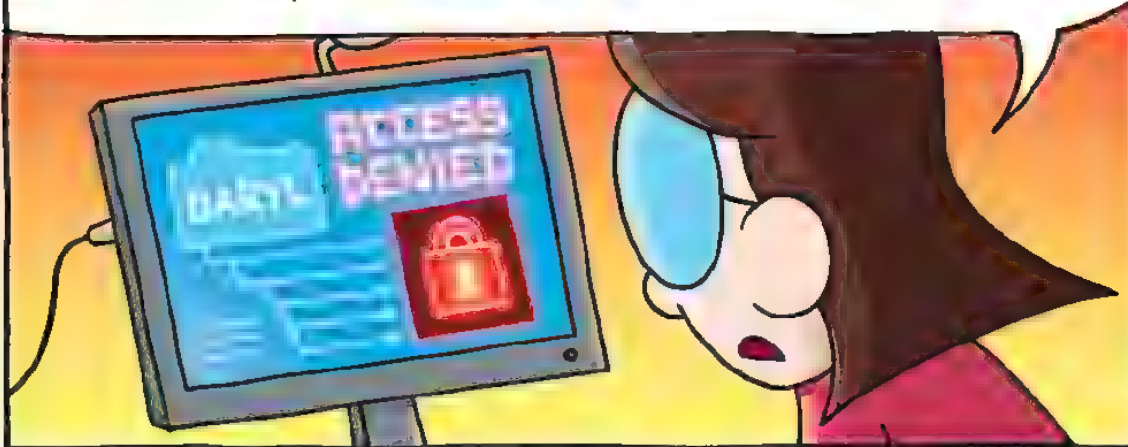
Let's take a look under the hood.







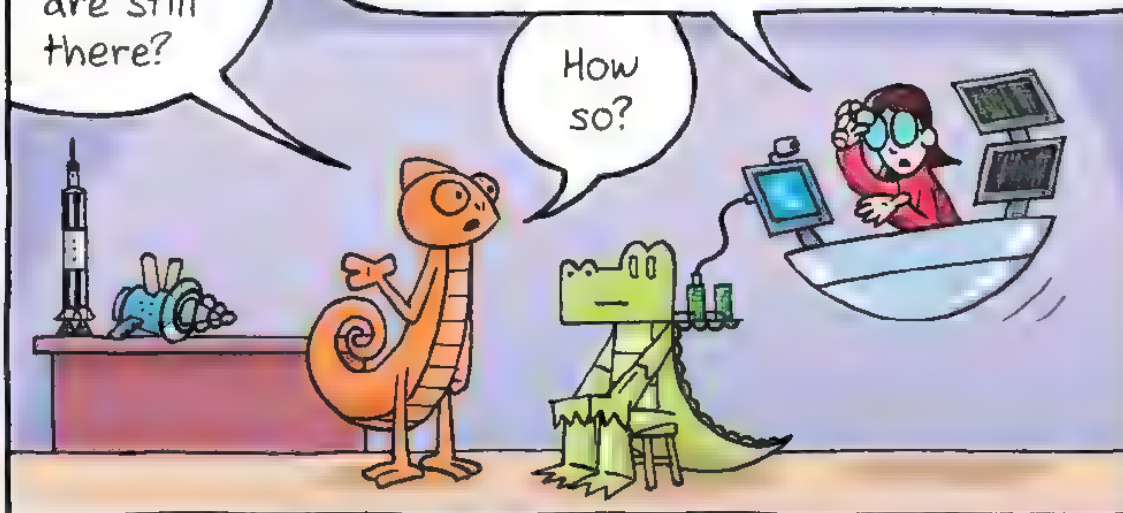
Huh. All of Brash's old memories are intact. But he can't access any memory directly related to *Daryl* because they've been *locked* inside *ONE GIANT FILE!*



Then the memories are still there?

Yes. But since he can't access them, it's kinda like he's...**FORGOTTEN** them.

How so?

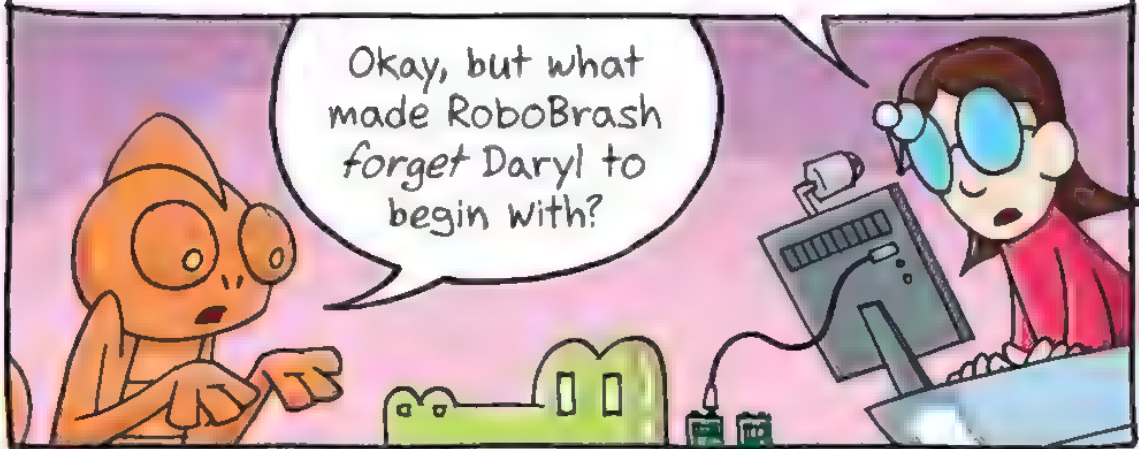


When you **forget** something, it doesn't mean the thoughts aren't still *buried* in your head somewhere. You may not even *realize* you've forgotten them. But then you'll **see**, or **hear**, or **smell** something, and **BAM!** *JUST LIKE THAT*, those memories suddenly come rushing back!





For RoboBrash, these *forgotten* memories can't be remembered unless something *specific* triggers them.

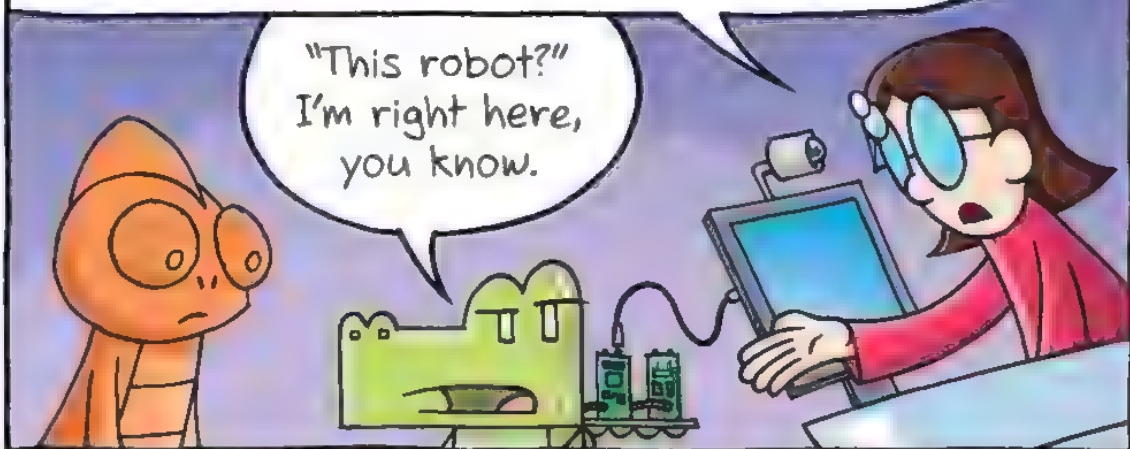


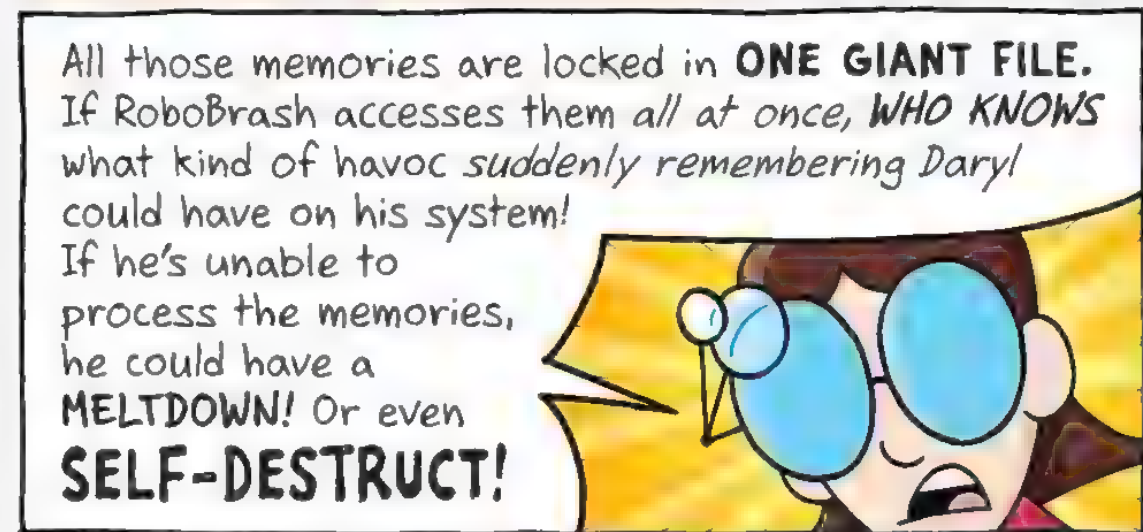
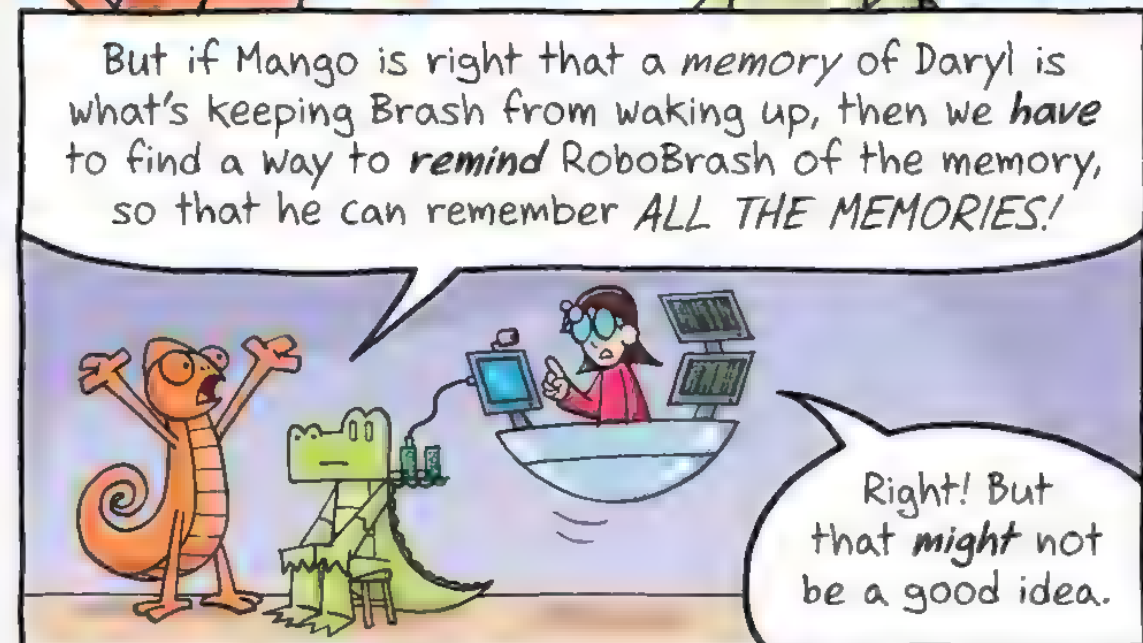
Well, the Head Scientist made copies of Brash's memories *AFTER* Brash was already in the hospital.

If Brash had pushed these memories of Daryl *WAY DOWN* into his subconsciousness and **locked them away** in his *own mind*...



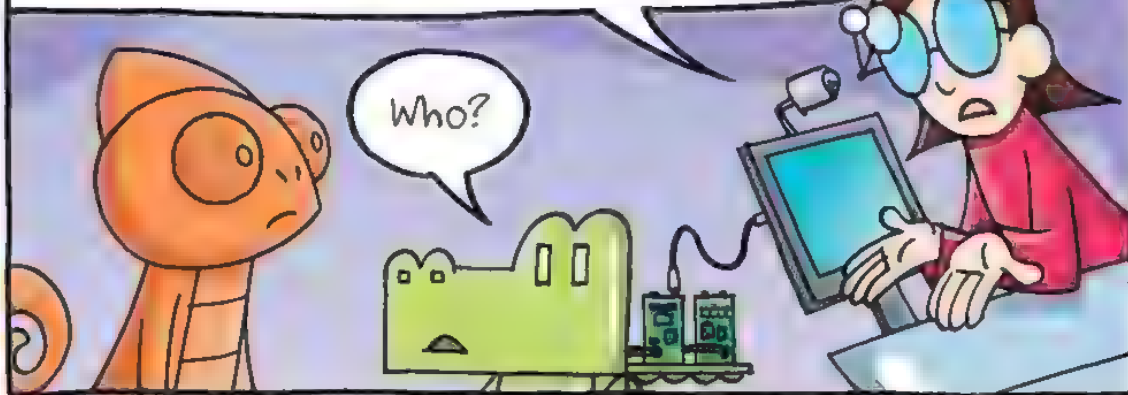
...then when they were uploaded to this robot's *mind*, they'd have gotten locked away as well!







Until I find a way to *SAFELY* unlock these memories, it's *extremely* important that RoboBrash *NOT* remember *anything* about **Daryl!**



Or **Crackerdile!!**

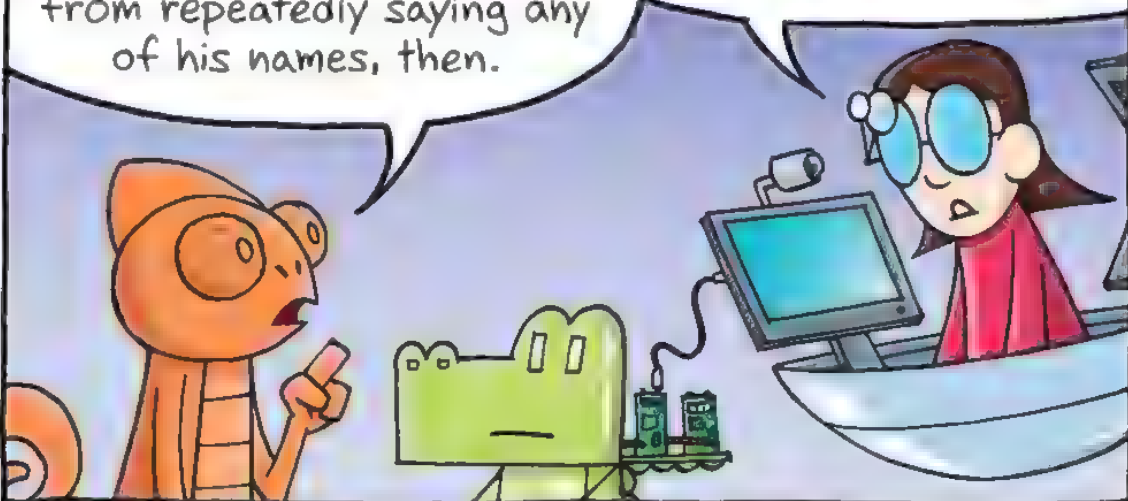


Or **Waffledile!!!**



Might be best if we refrain from repeatedly saying any of his names, then.

Oh, yeah. Good call!



## Chapter 9

Back inside the real Brash's memory...



I told you it's not safe to play out there, Brash. You must stay in here with *me*, where no one can find us.

You can't trust *HIM*, Baby Brash! Daryl is **CRACKERDILE!** He's the **BAD GUY!**

No, he's not. Dawyl is a **GOOD GUY!** That monster outside is **NOTHING** like Dawyl.

Is, too.

**IS NOT! IS NOT! IS NOT!**  
**IS NOT! IS NOT! IS NOT!**  
**IS NOT! IS NOT! IS NOT!**



You don't just need to *wake up*, you need to **GROW** up!







I know what's going on, Baby Brash. You've never forgiven yourself for letting your partner down. You *blame yourself* for what happened to him.



Oh, but Mango... That's **YOU** you're talking about.



Don't **YOU** blame **YOURSELF** for letting **YOUR** partner down?



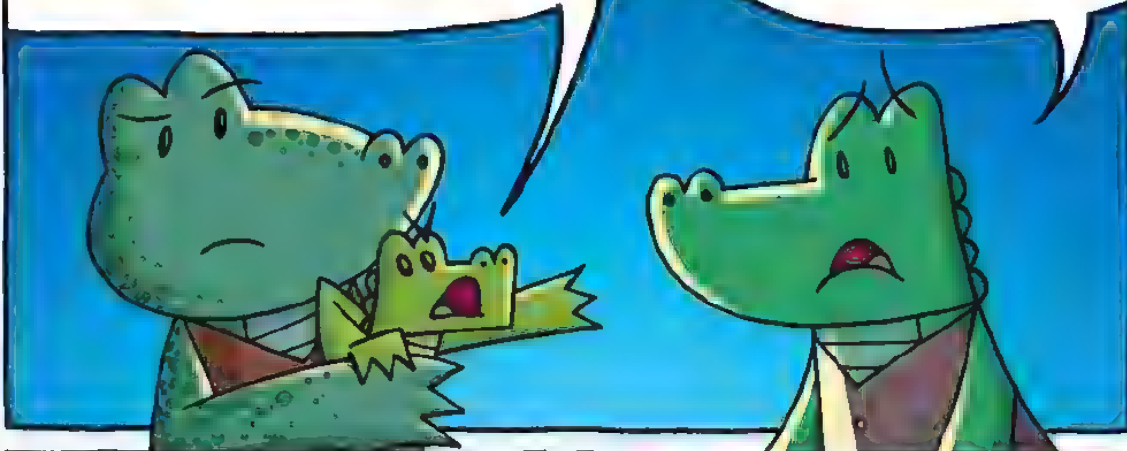
Isn't it **YOUR** fault that Brash got hurt and now **I** have to keep him safe?





**DAWYL is WIGHT!** You didn't keep me *safe*, Mango! **WHY DIDN'T YOU SAVE ME?**

I'm sorry, Brash! But...I'm here to save you now!



This *memory* of Daryl isn't keeping you *safe*—it's keeping you **AFRAID!**



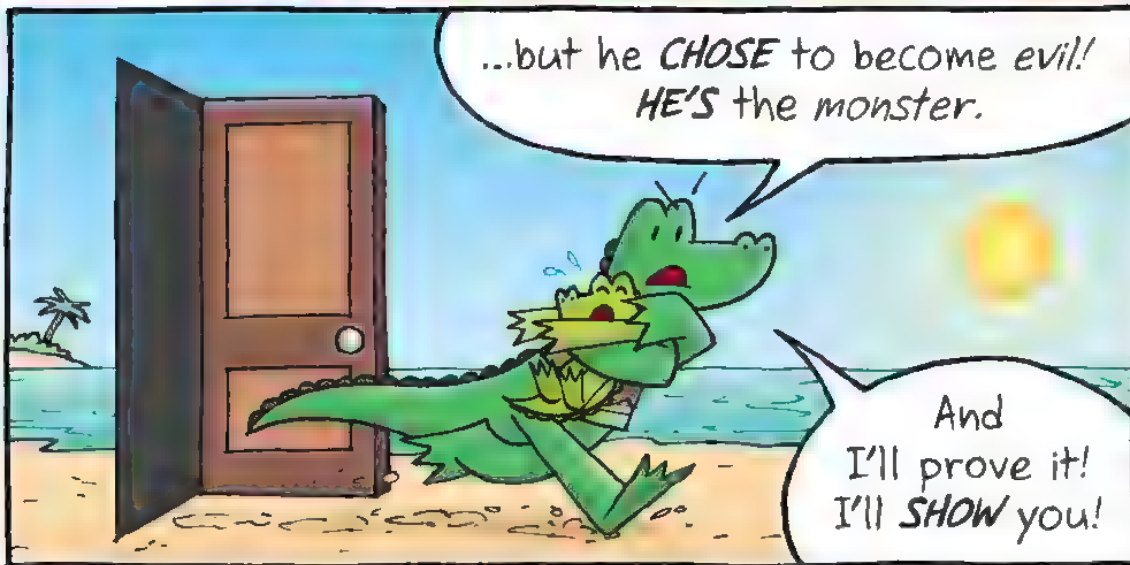
And if you don't *face your fear* you'll be locked in here **FOREVER!**



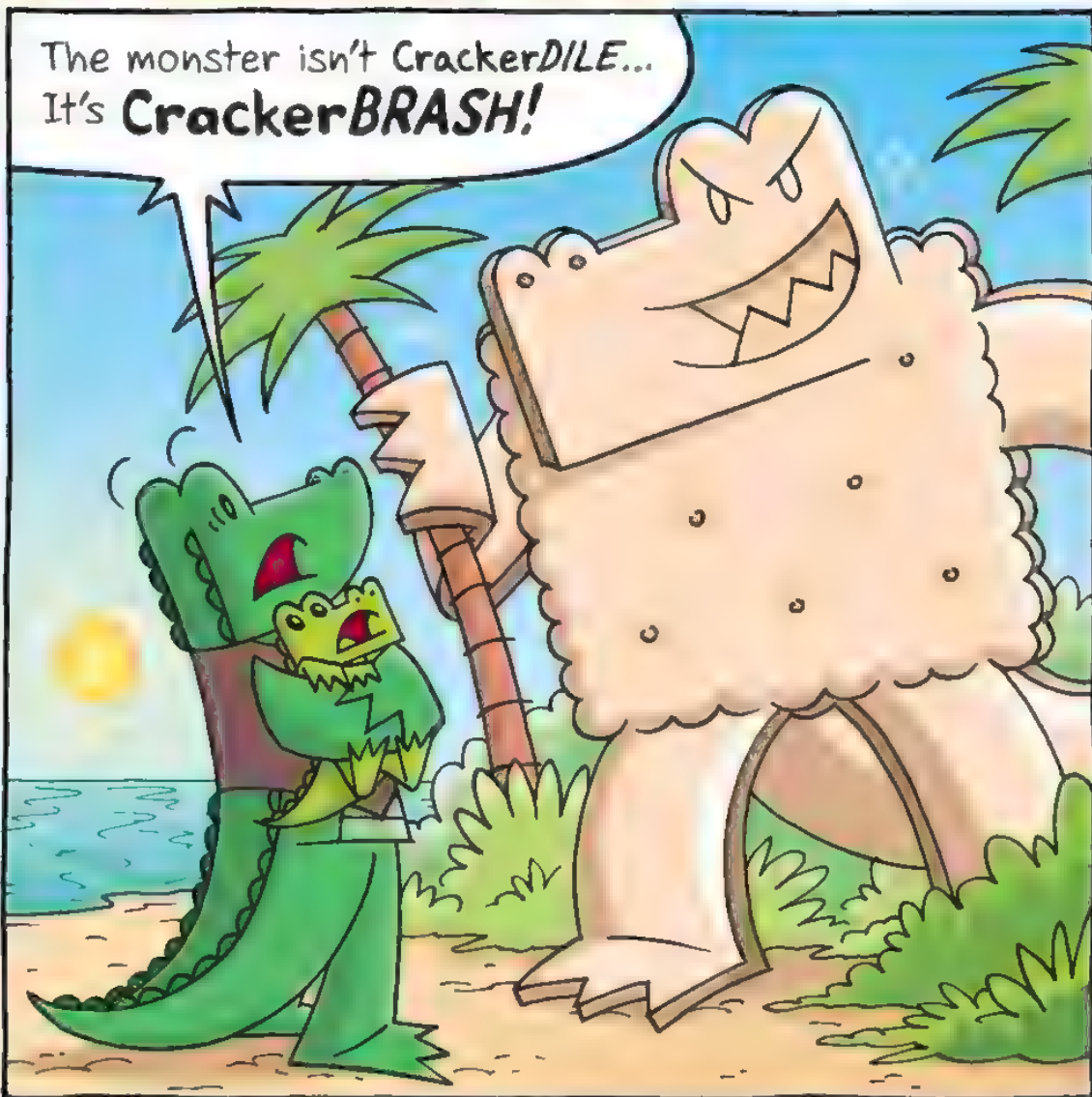
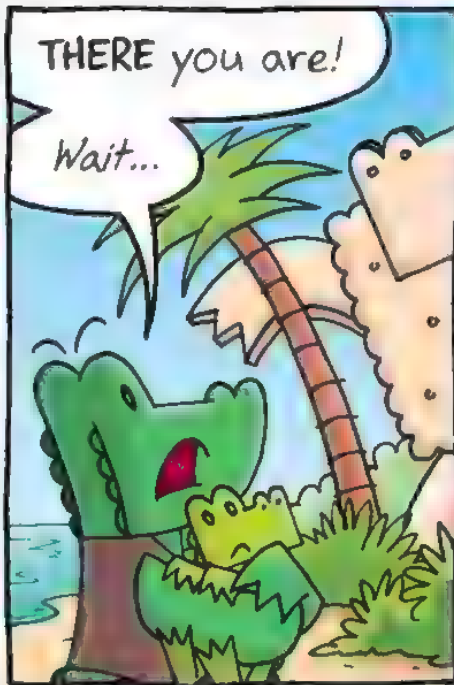
**NO!** I don't wanna! You're not my *fwiend*!

**YES, I AM!** It's **DARYL** who's not your friend!

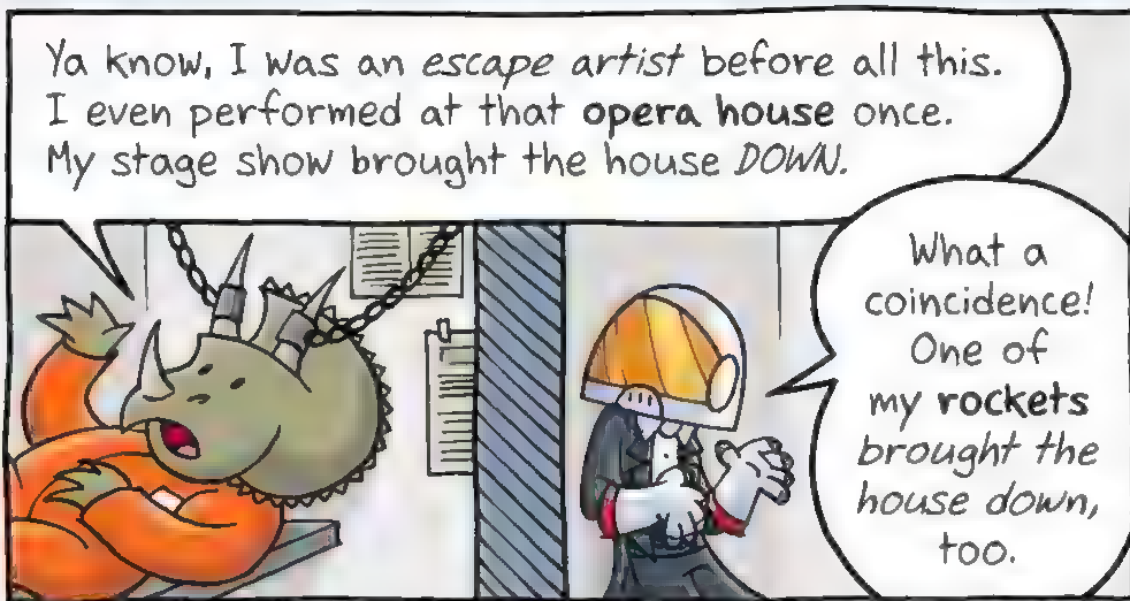
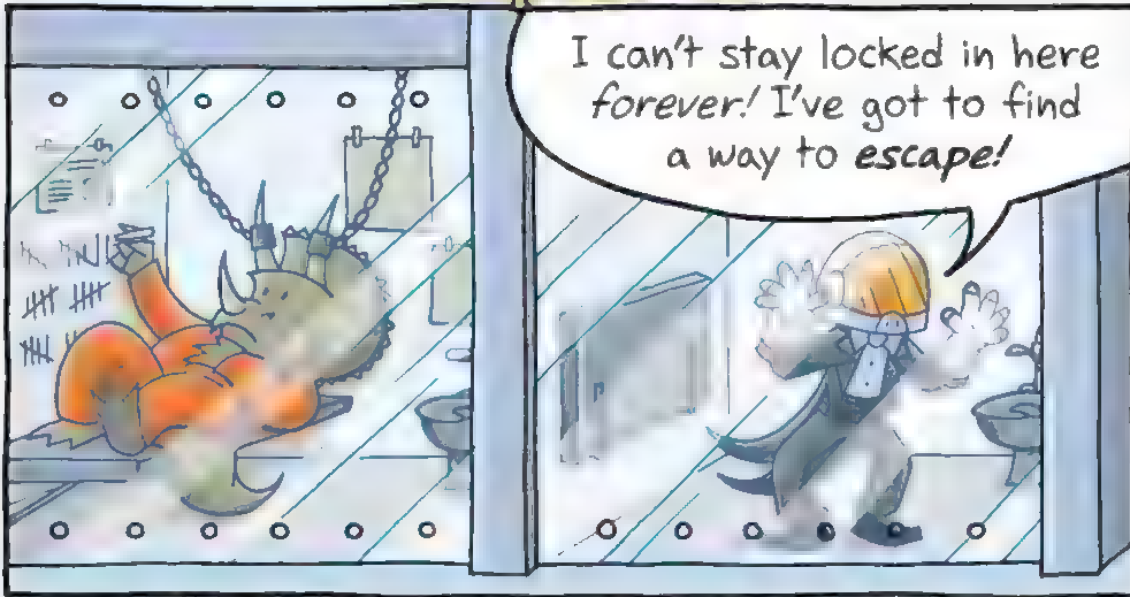




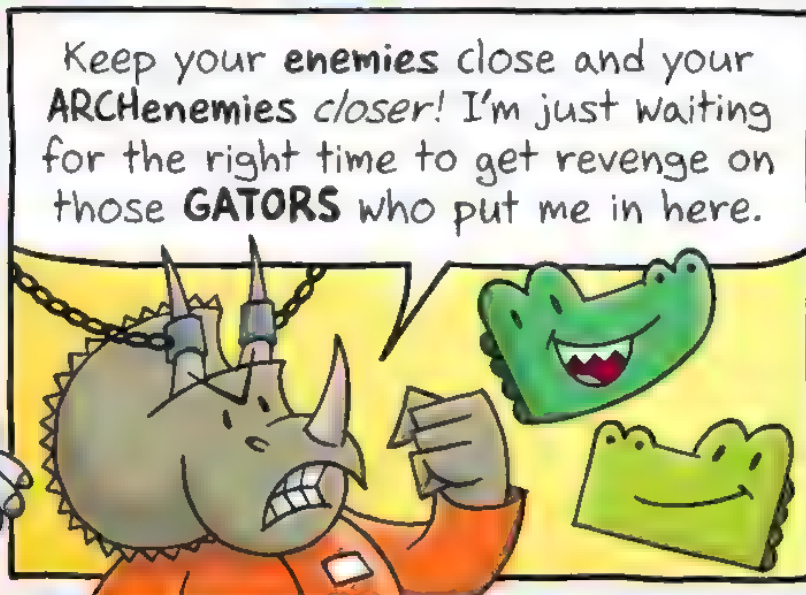




## Chapter 10

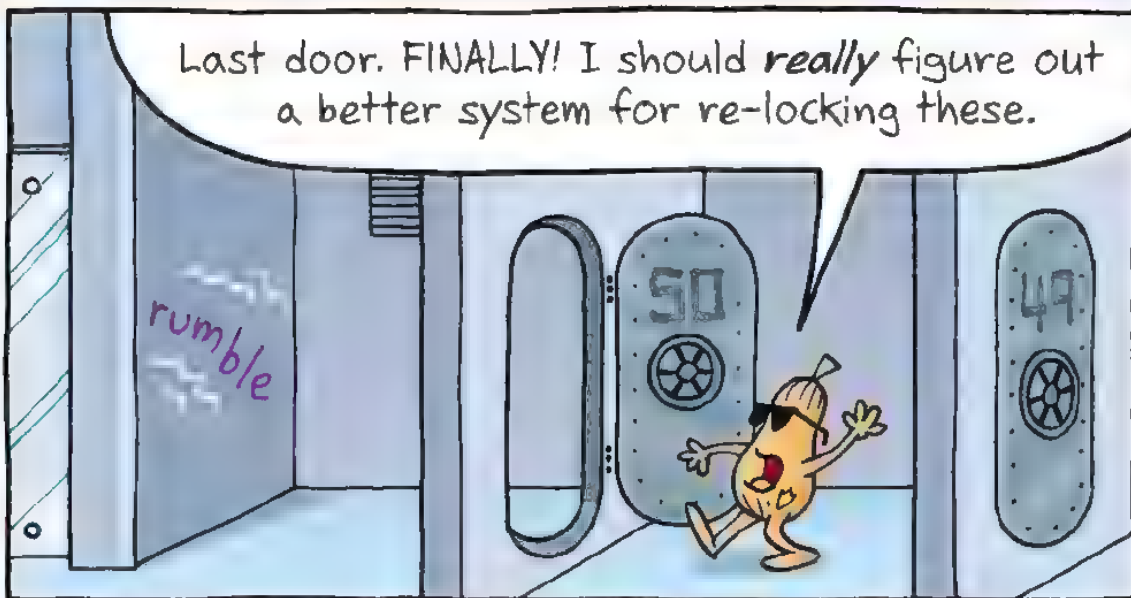
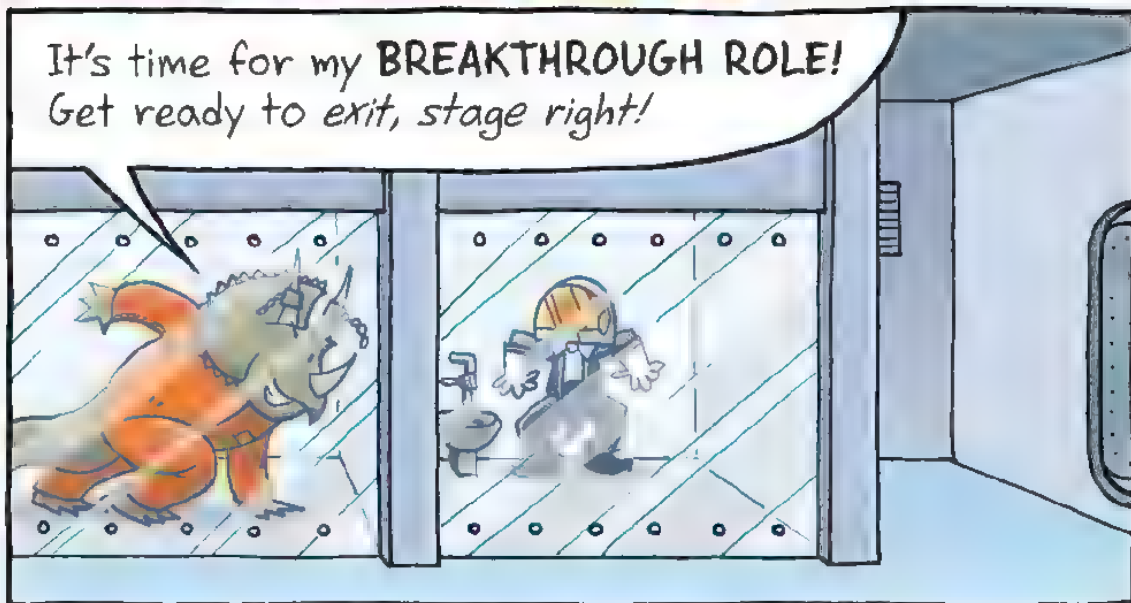
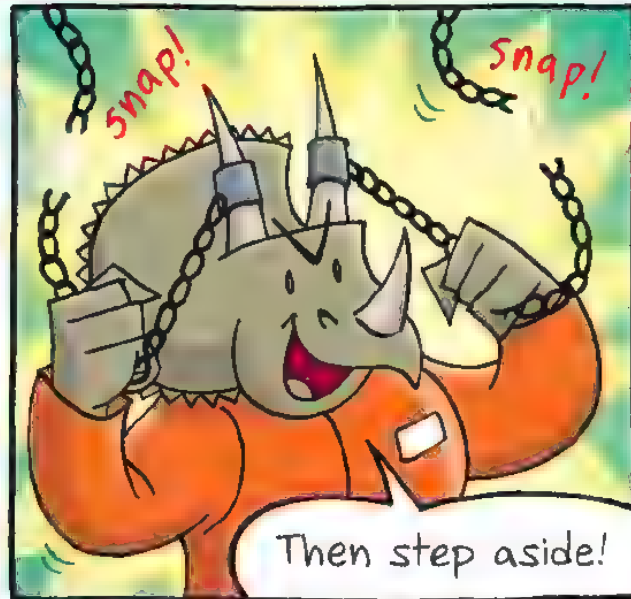


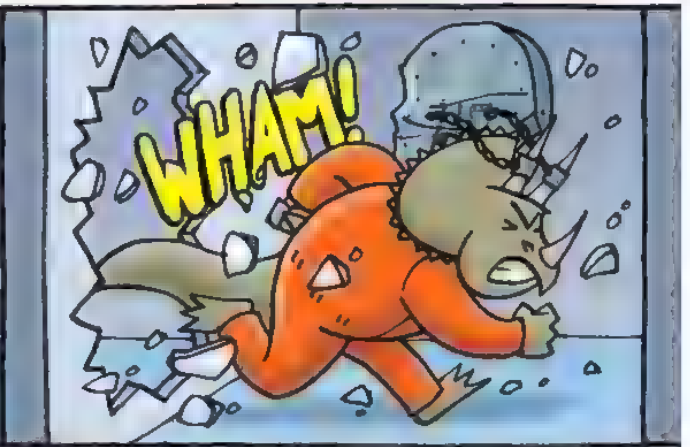
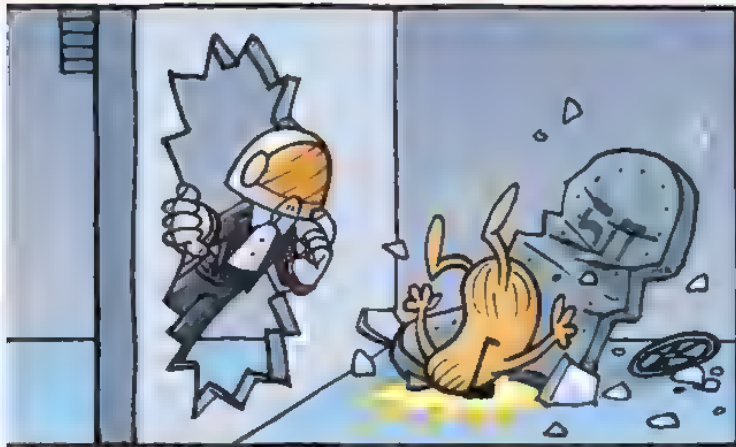
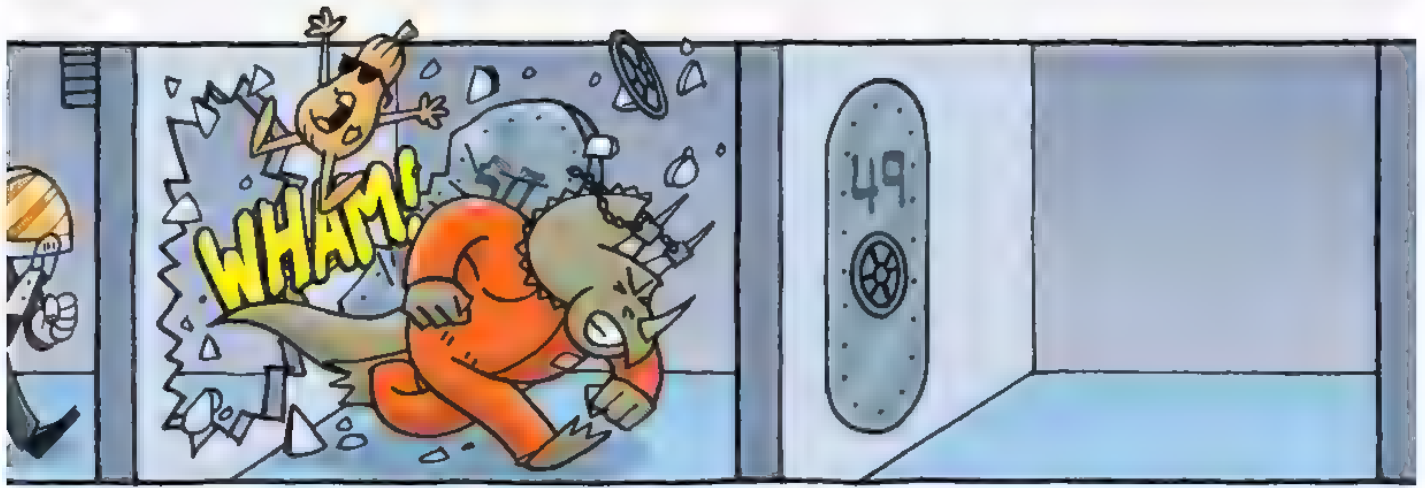




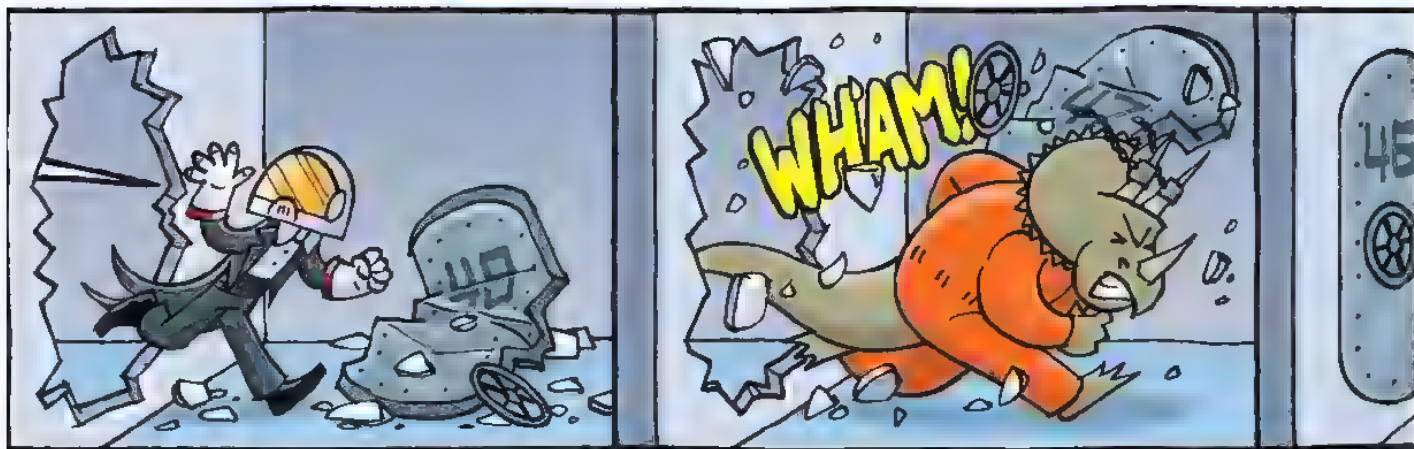
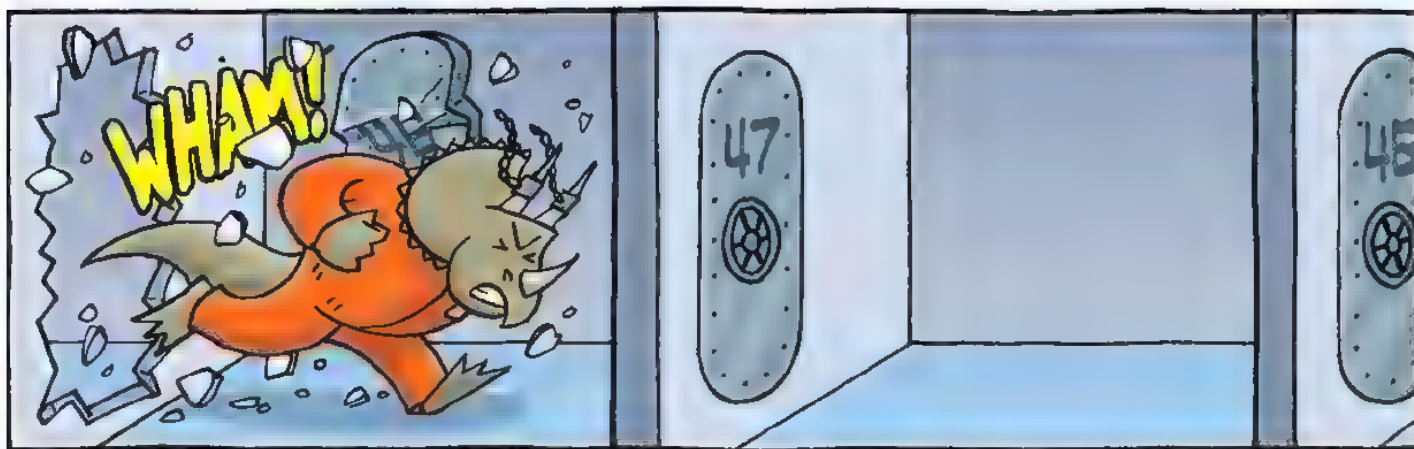
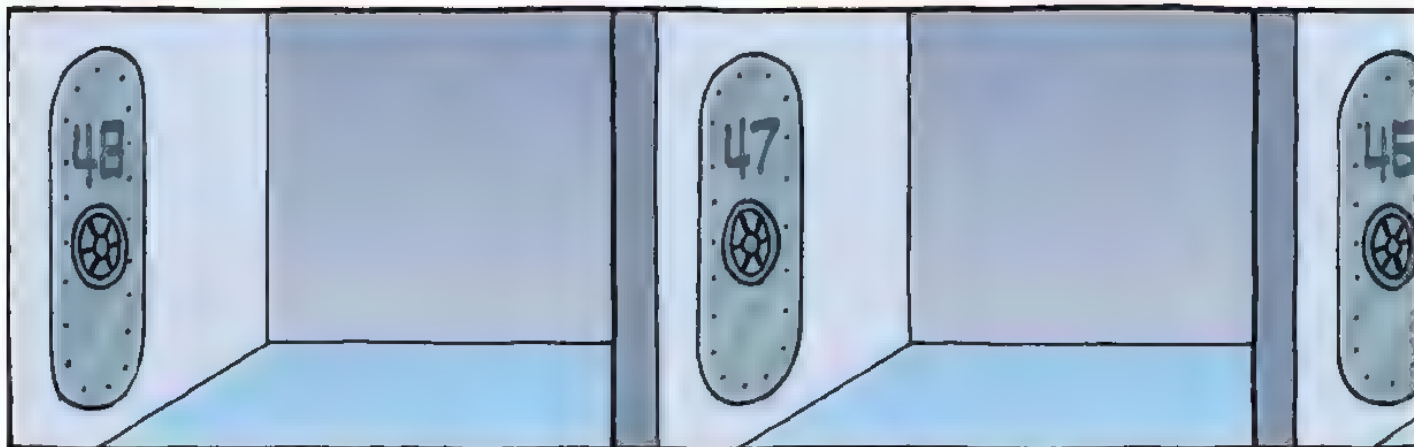
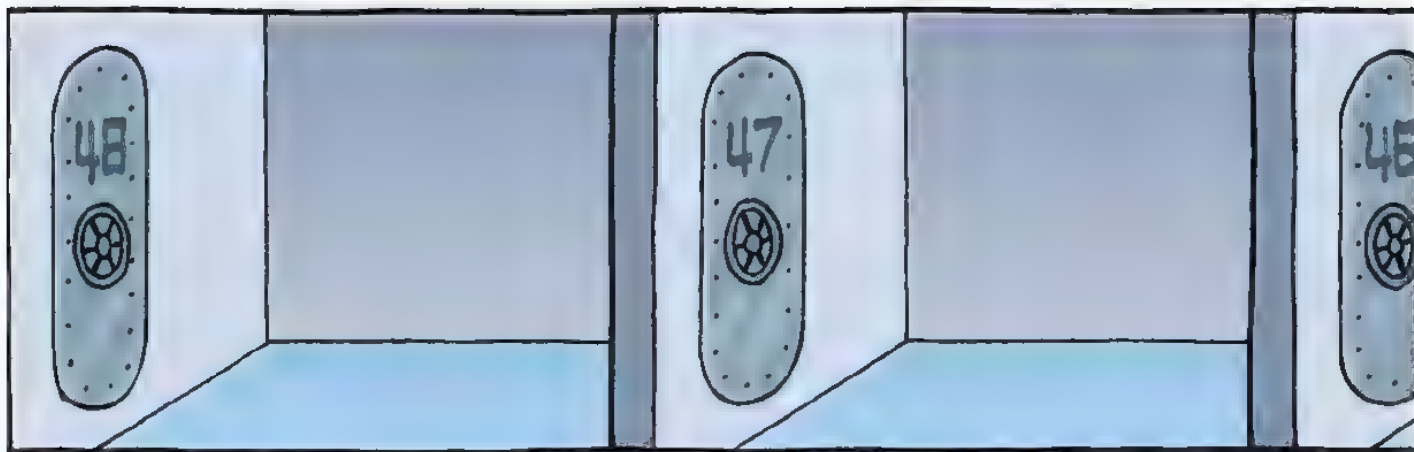


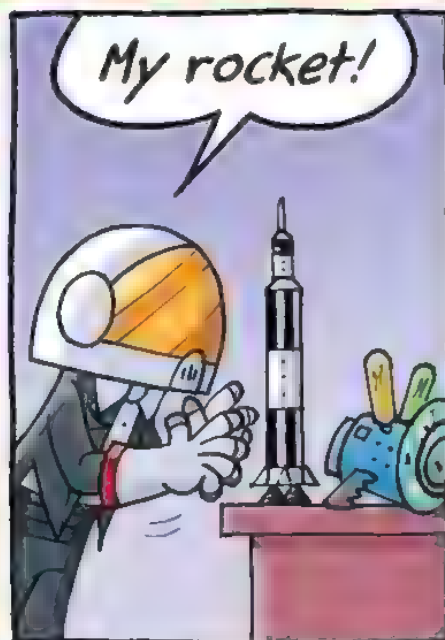
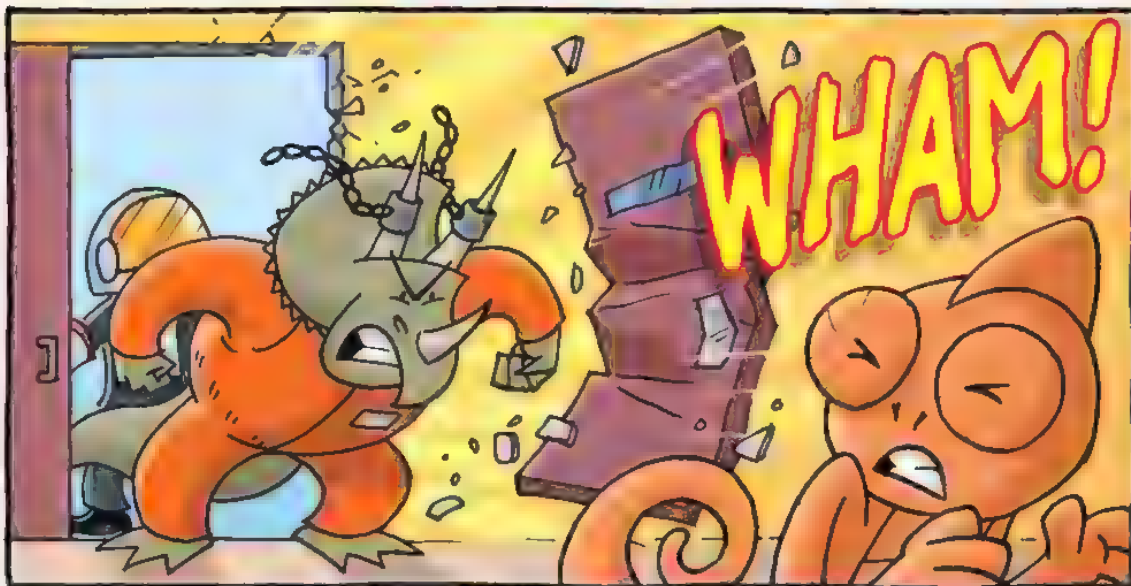
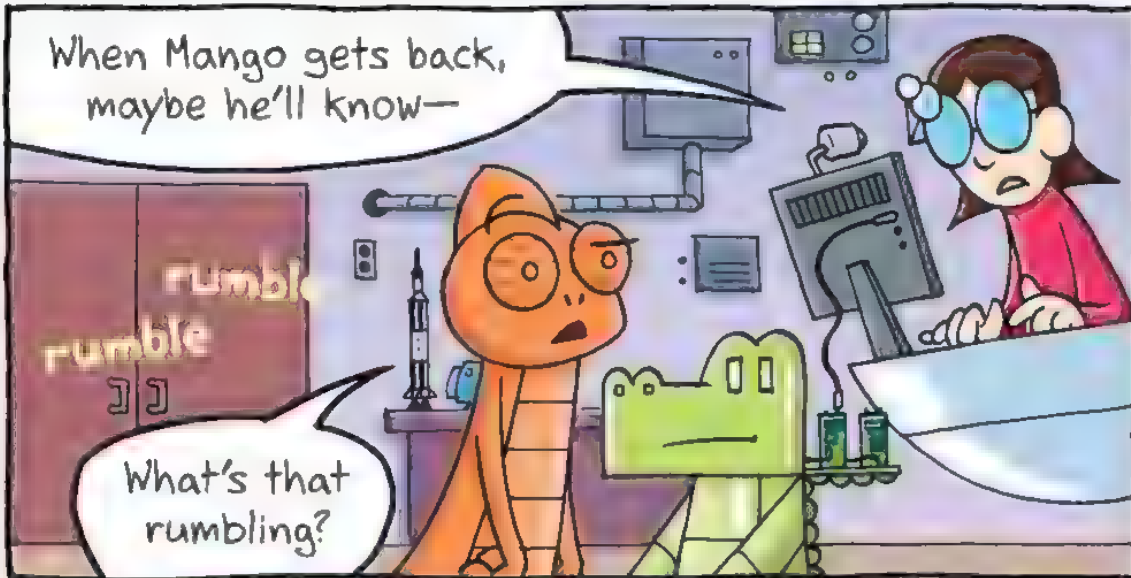






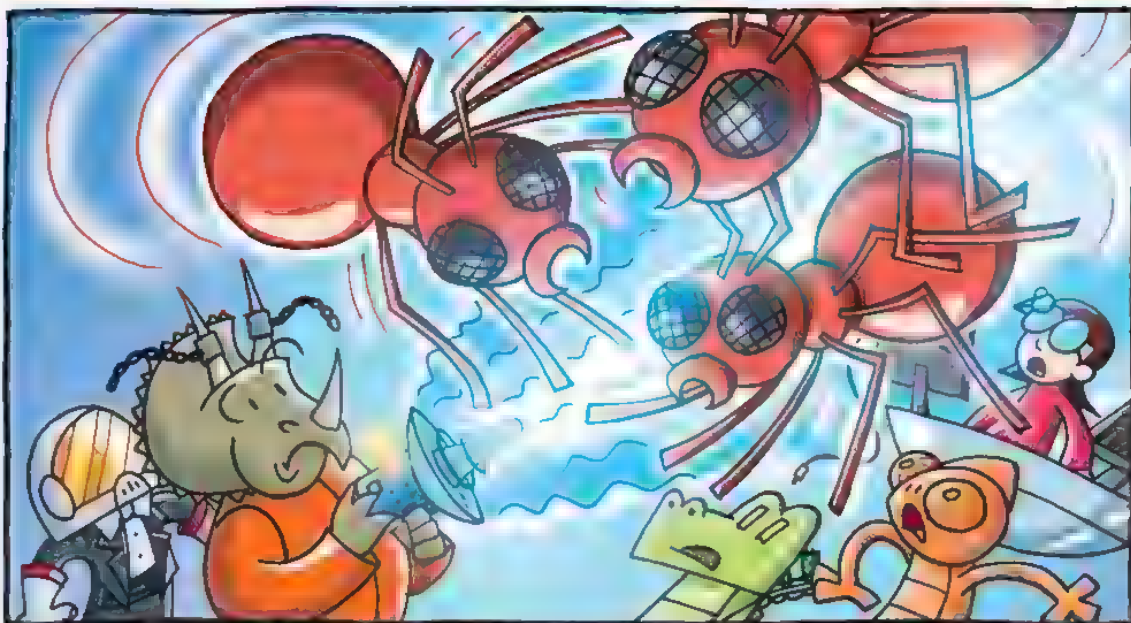
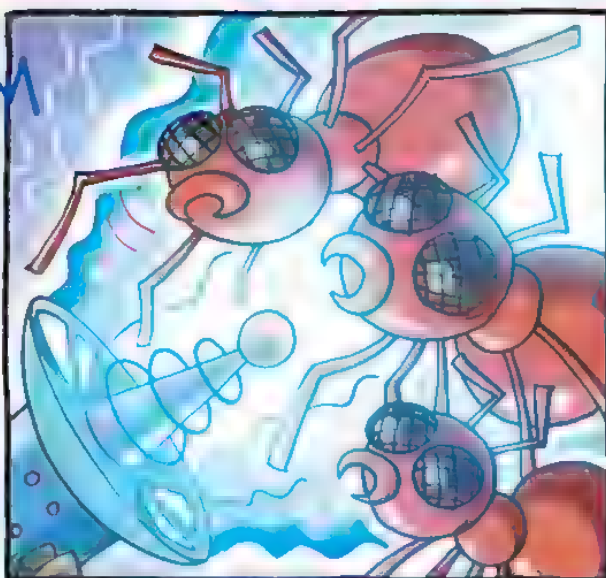
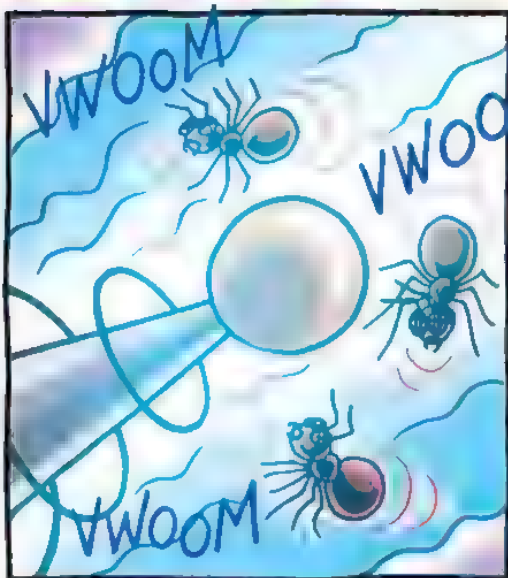






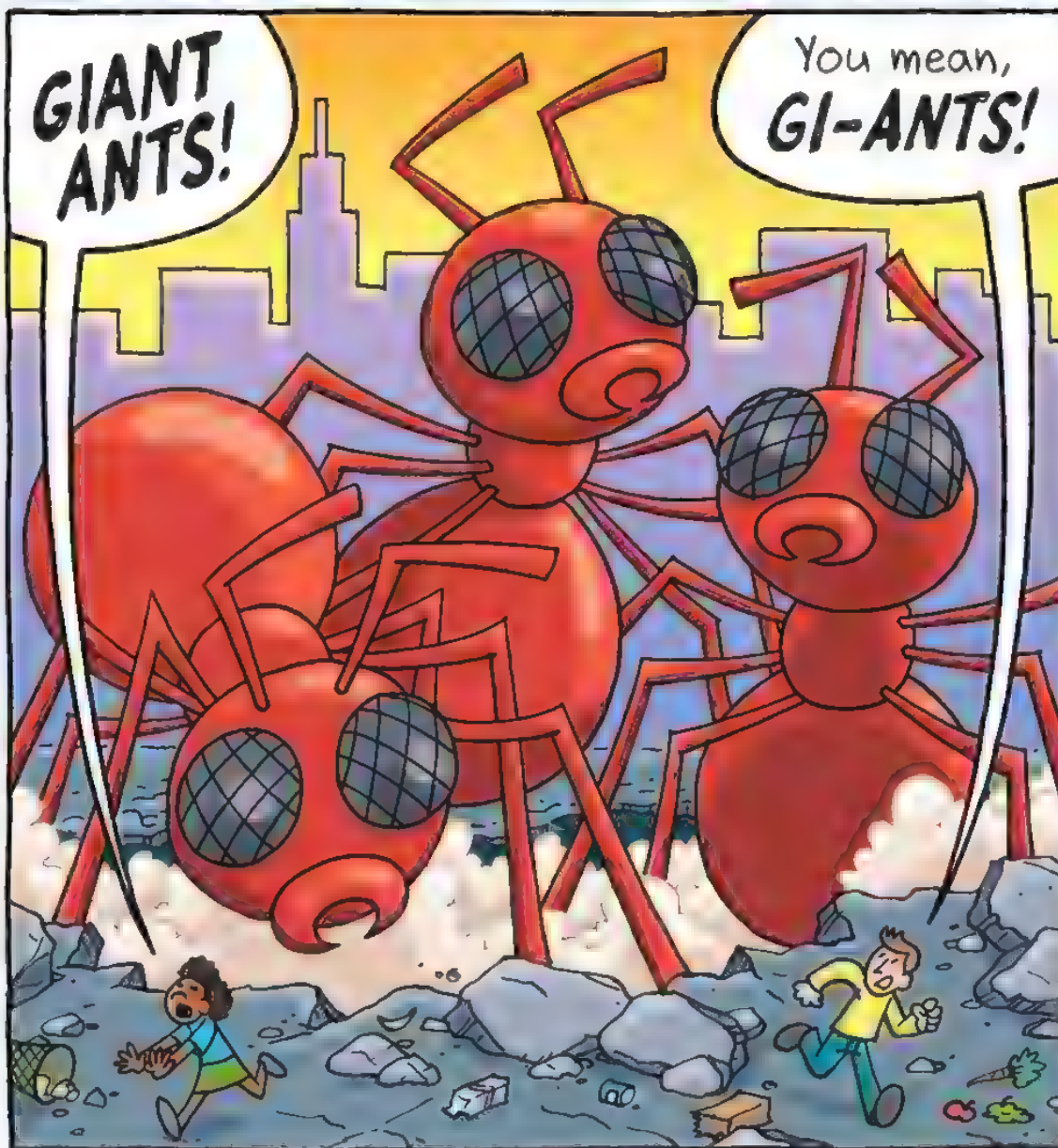




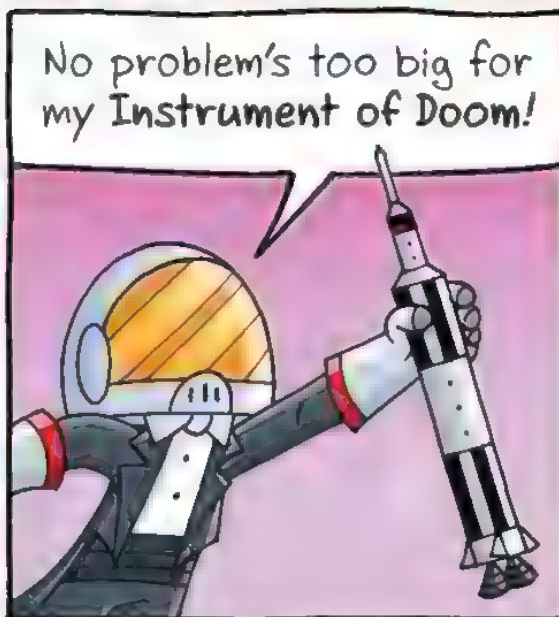
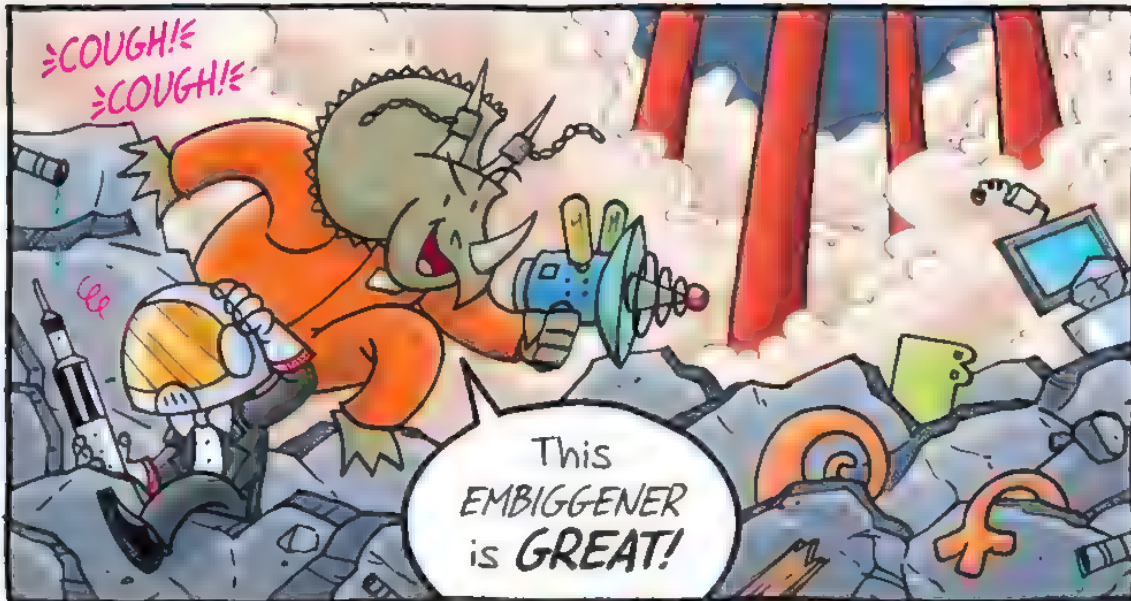






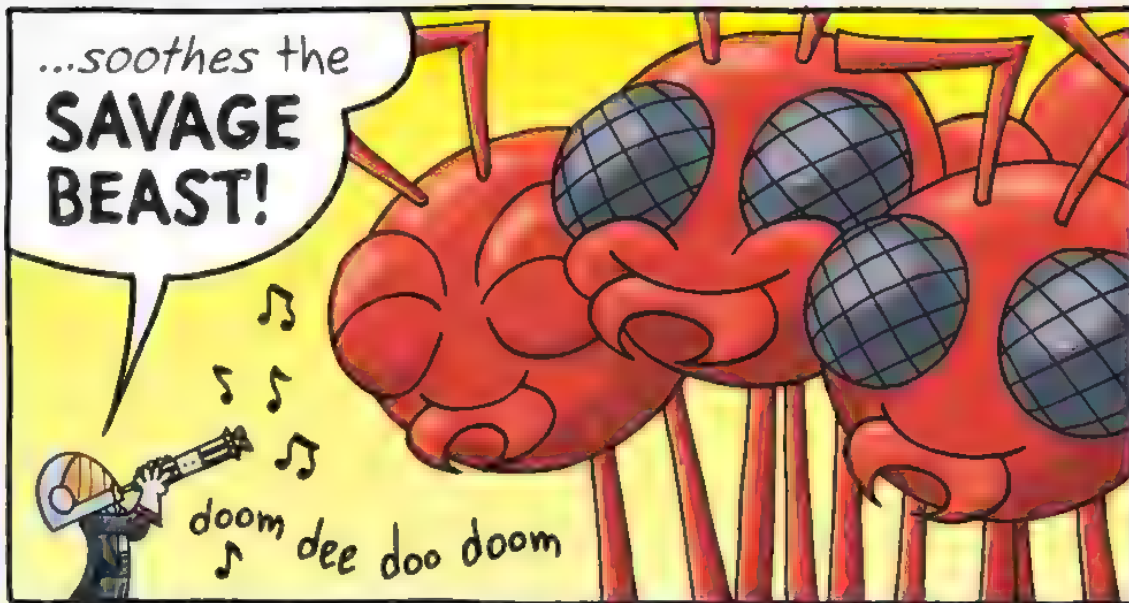


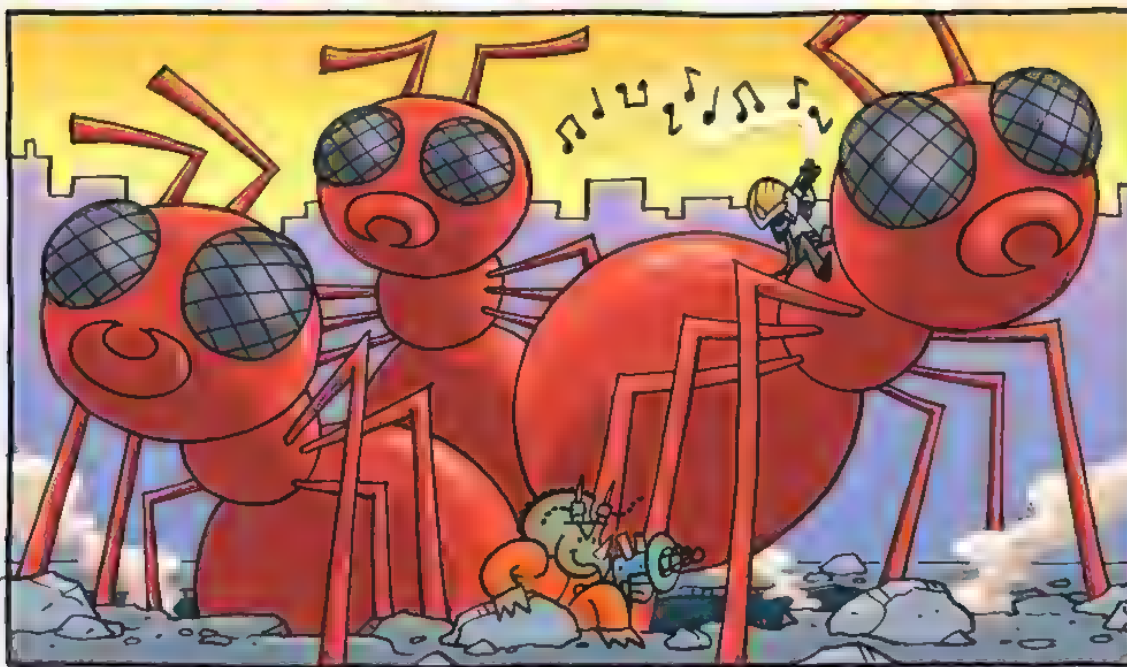
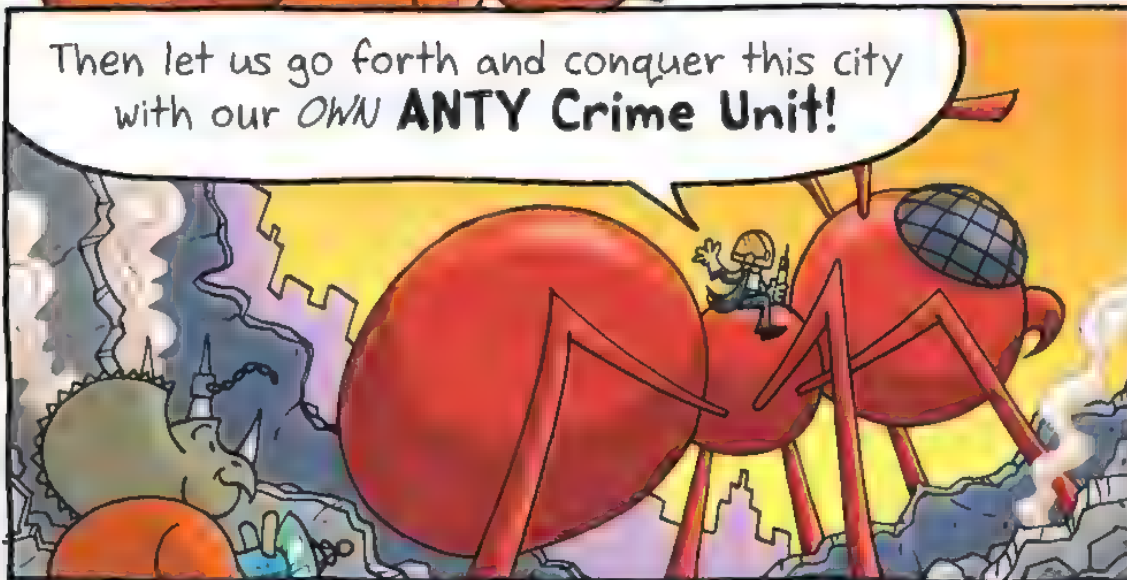






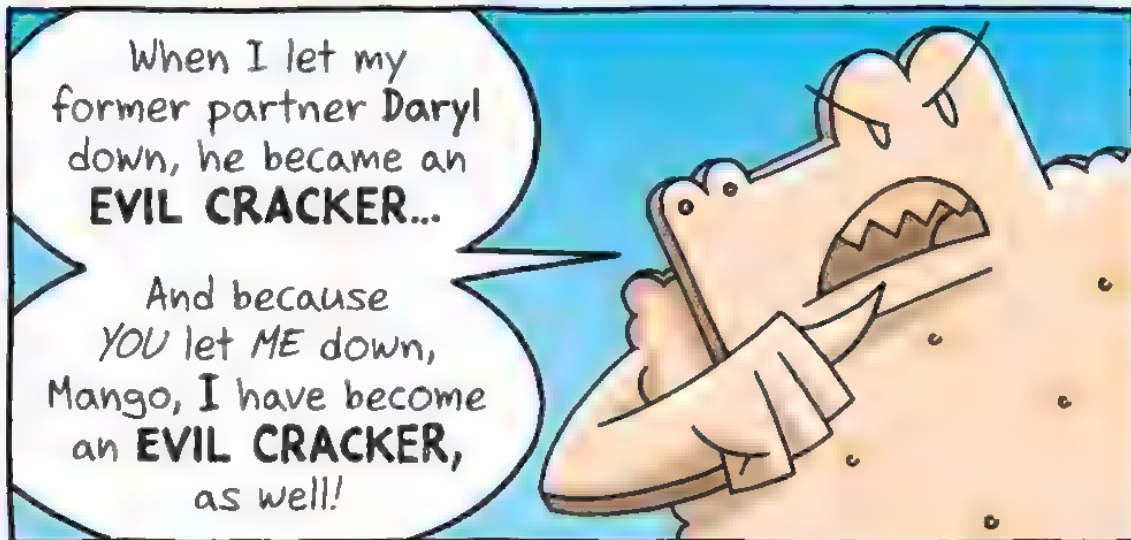


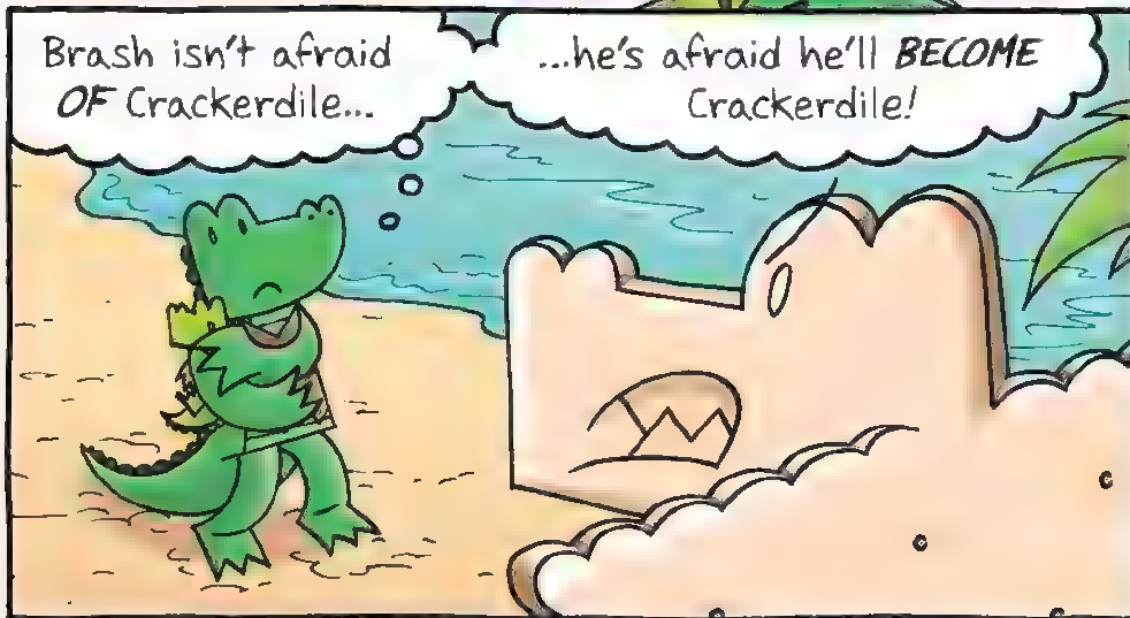




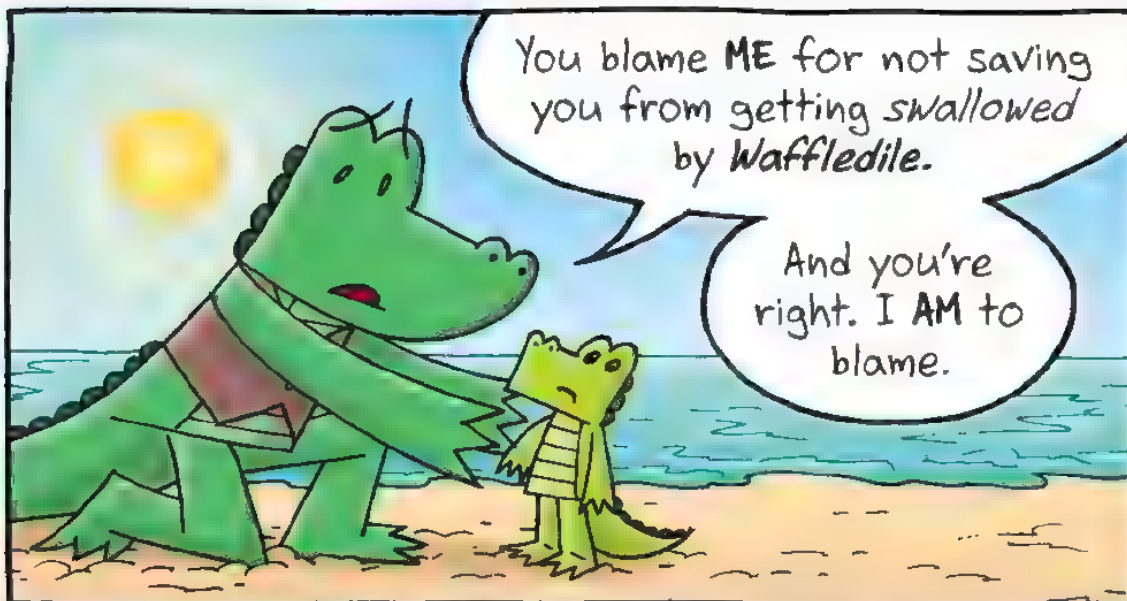


## Chapter 11

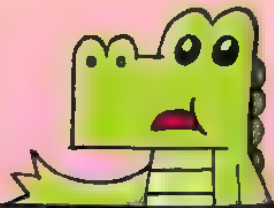




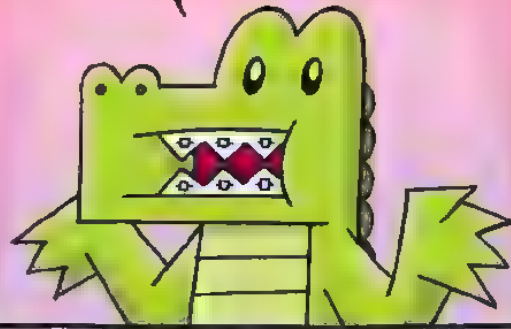




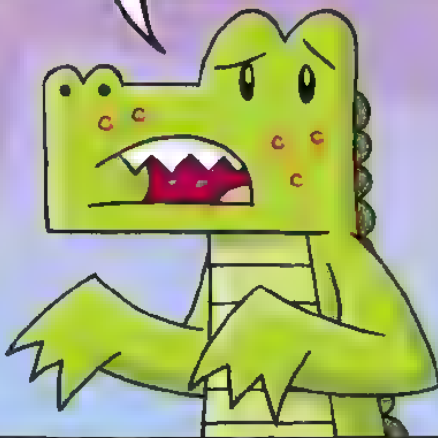
Waffledile swallowing me wasn't your fault. I told you that stopping *him* was more important than saving *me*. *THAT* was the mission. I *insisted* that sacrificing me was for the **Gweater Good**.



*You* had to make one of the hardest decisions anyone could ever expect to. But *I've* been afraid to face the consequences of your decision.



I never thought I'd survive! Just as I never thought Daryl survived falling into radioactive saltine dough. And I instantly feared that I'd become *just like Crackerdile*...and then take it out on you.



So I retreated into my mind, where my memories of Daryl, from *before* he became Crackerdile, made me feel *safe* and *innocent*... But I've just been hiding from the truth.





I didn't want to deal with the *guilt* and *anger* I feel over what I let happen to Daryl. I wanted to *forget* that he turned into a *monster*. And that allowed my *fears* to trap me here...abandoning you out there in the real world.



You didn't let **ME** down, Mango. I've let **YOU** down.

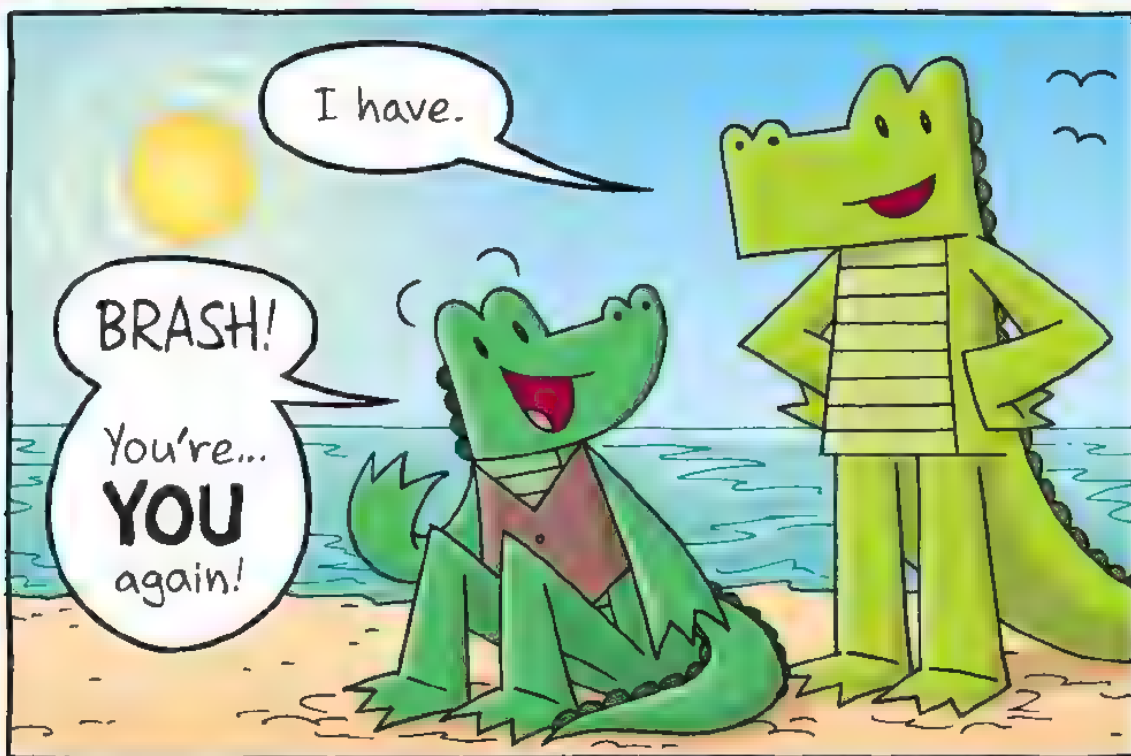


Wow.  
These are some **very mature themes** you're addressing. It sounds like you've had a lot of character growth...

I have.

**BRASH!**

You're...  
**YOU**  
again!

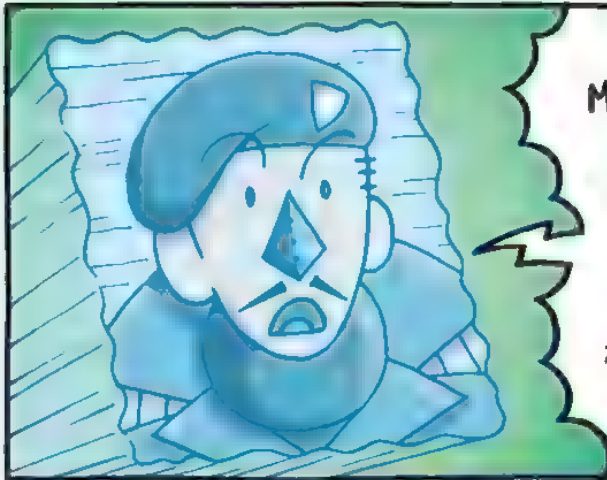






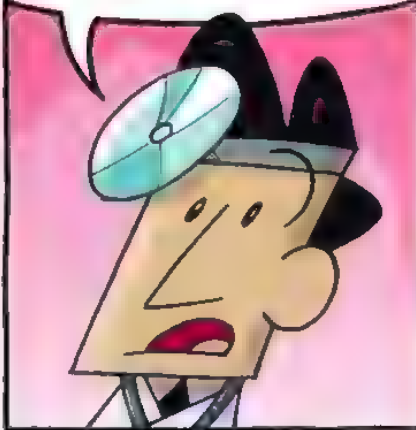
## Chapter 12





Houdino and the  
Maestronaut have broken  
out of the Maximum  
Security Prison, leaving  
S.U.I.T. Headquarters  
in *RUINS!* Now they're  
terrorizing the city with  
**GIANT ANTS!**

Prison breakout?  
Giant ants? Now,  
that's what I call  
**NEWSWORTHY!**



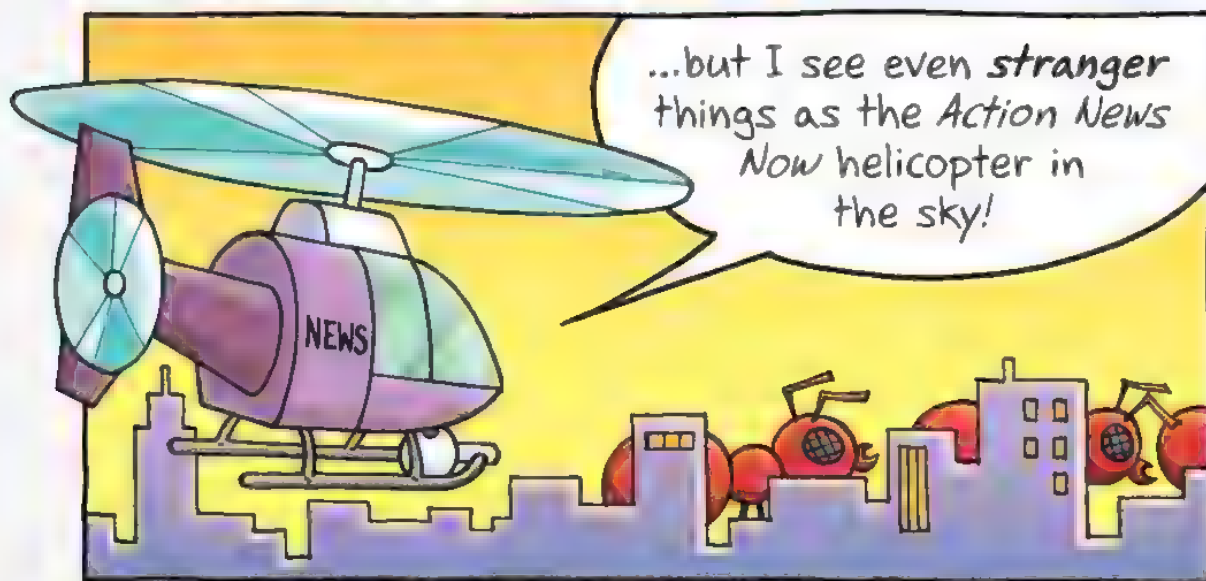
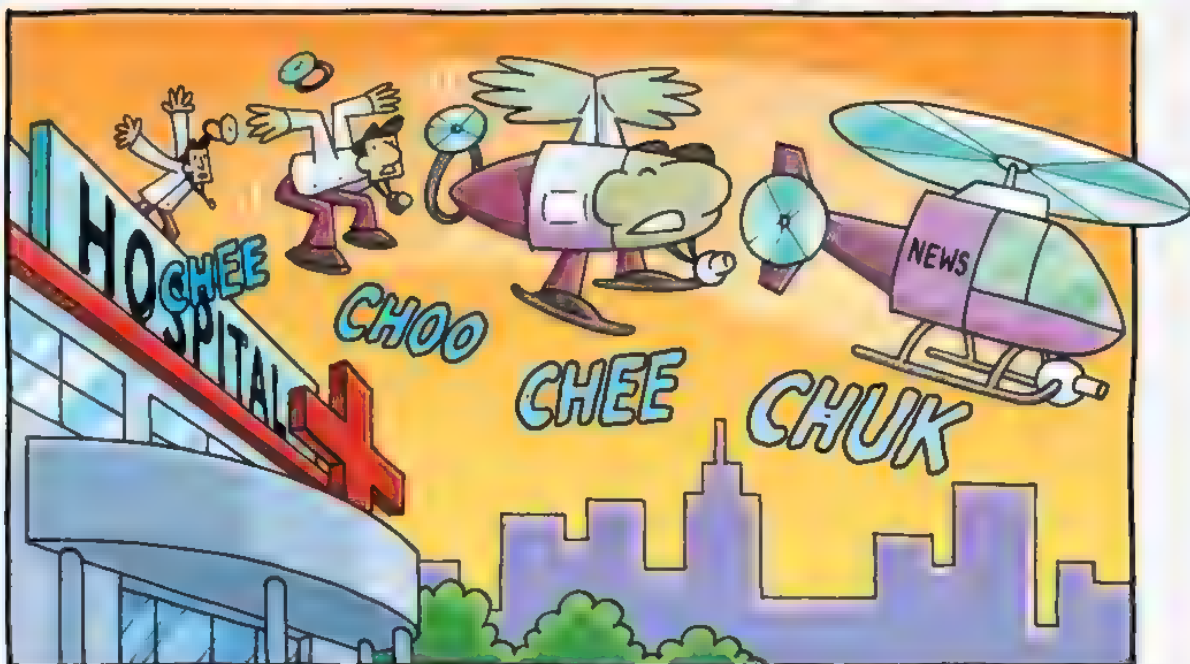
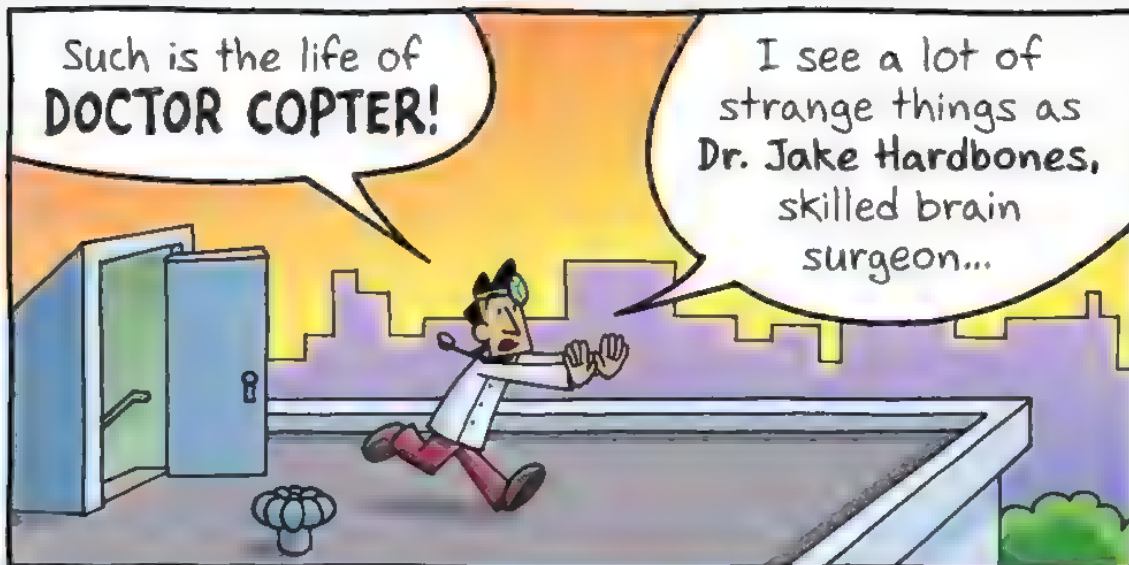
I can already feel the  
uncontrollable urge to  
**transform** coming on...



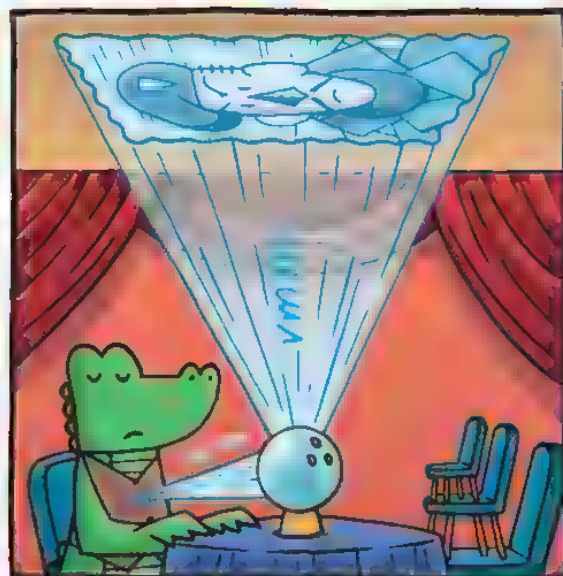
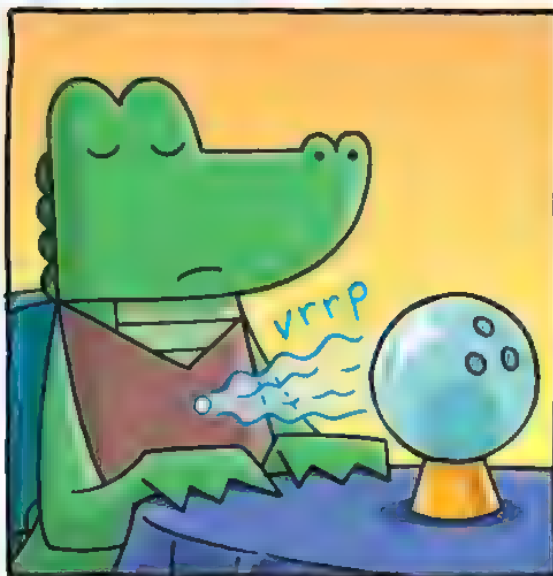
Mustn't change here... Have to resist  
until I get to the **rooftop!**





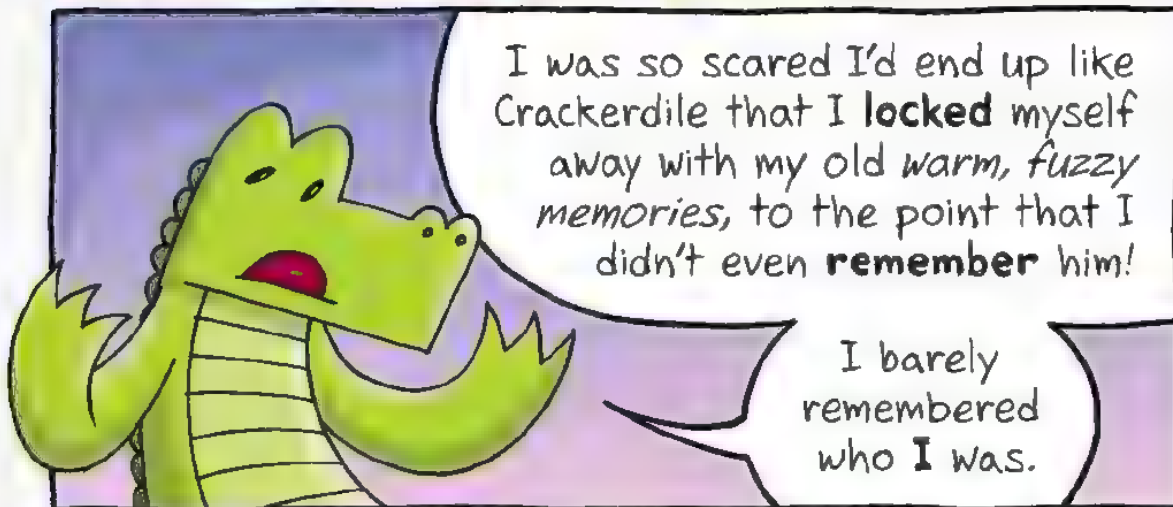
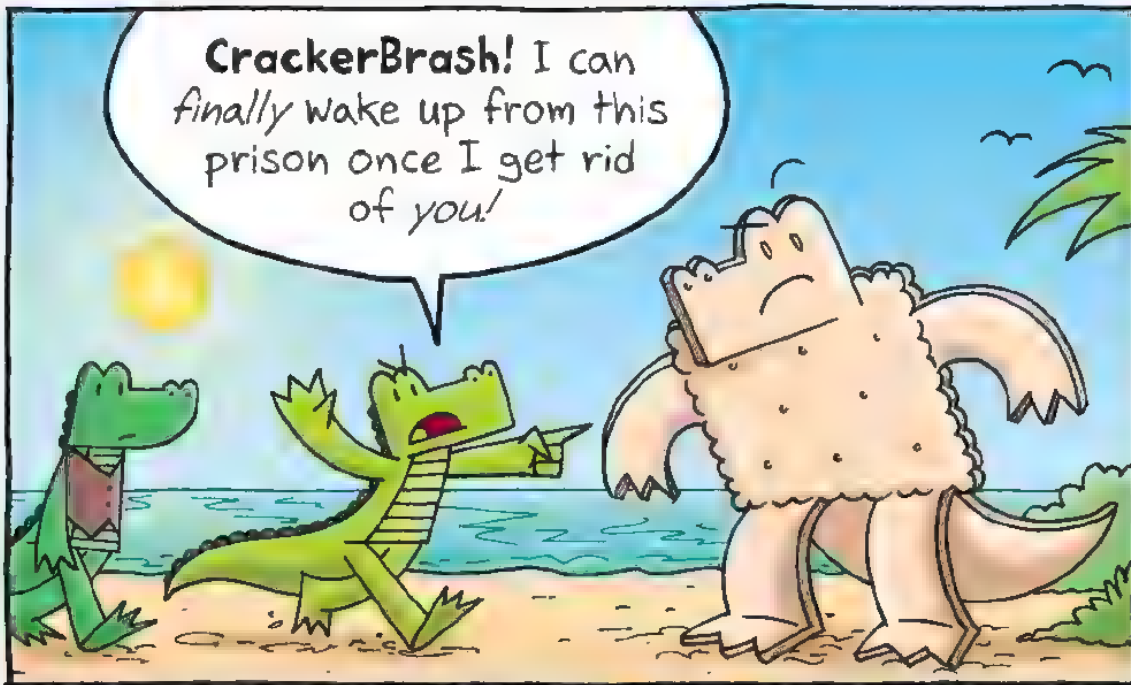


Back at the Séance Factory...

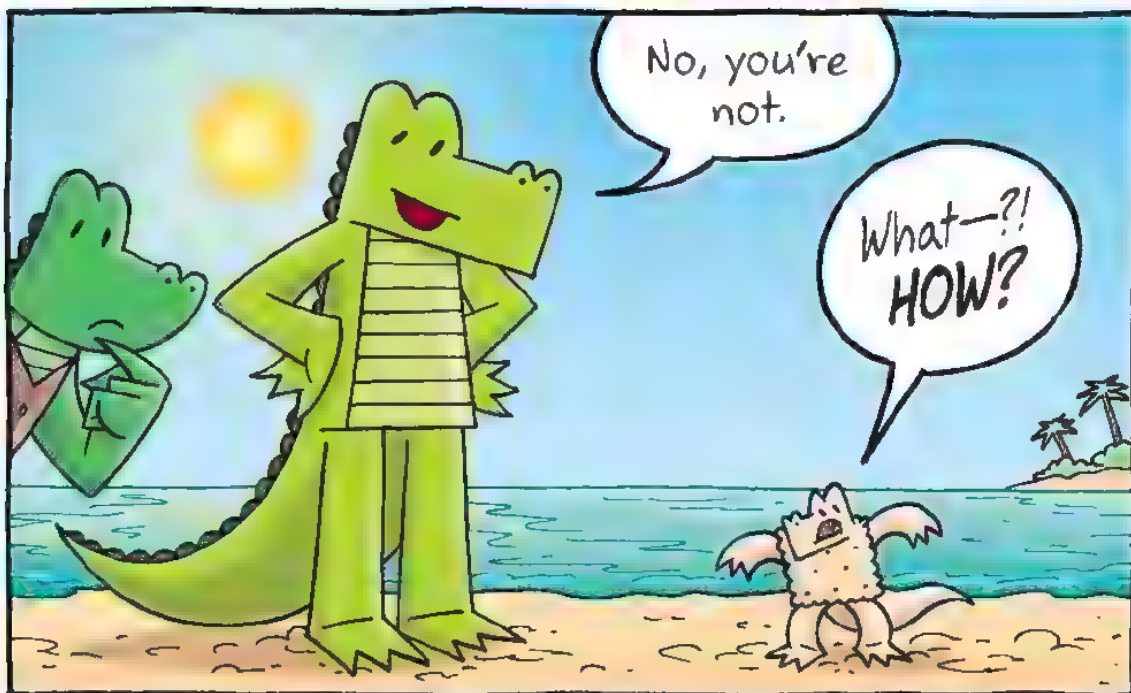


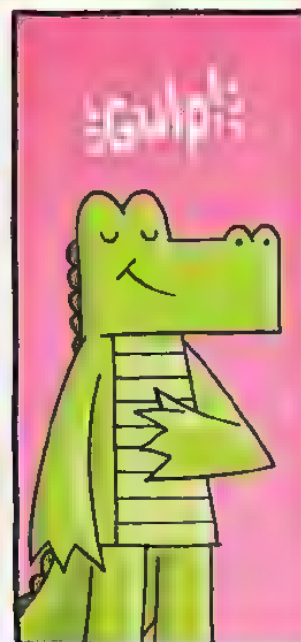
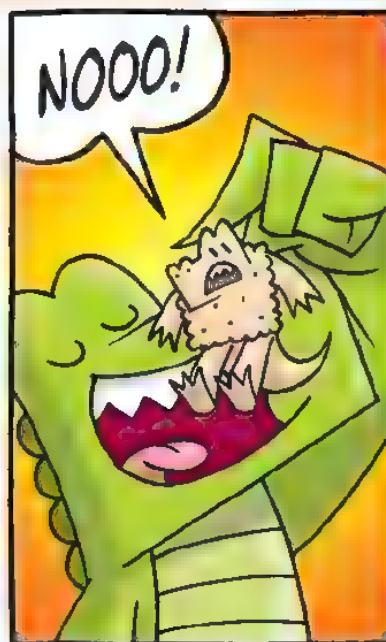
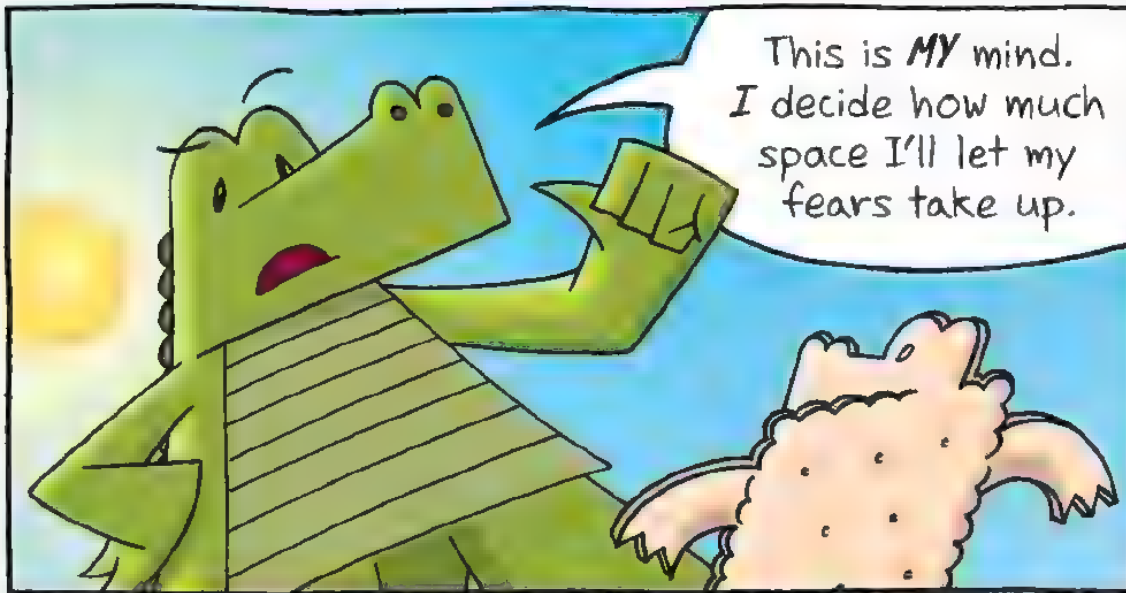






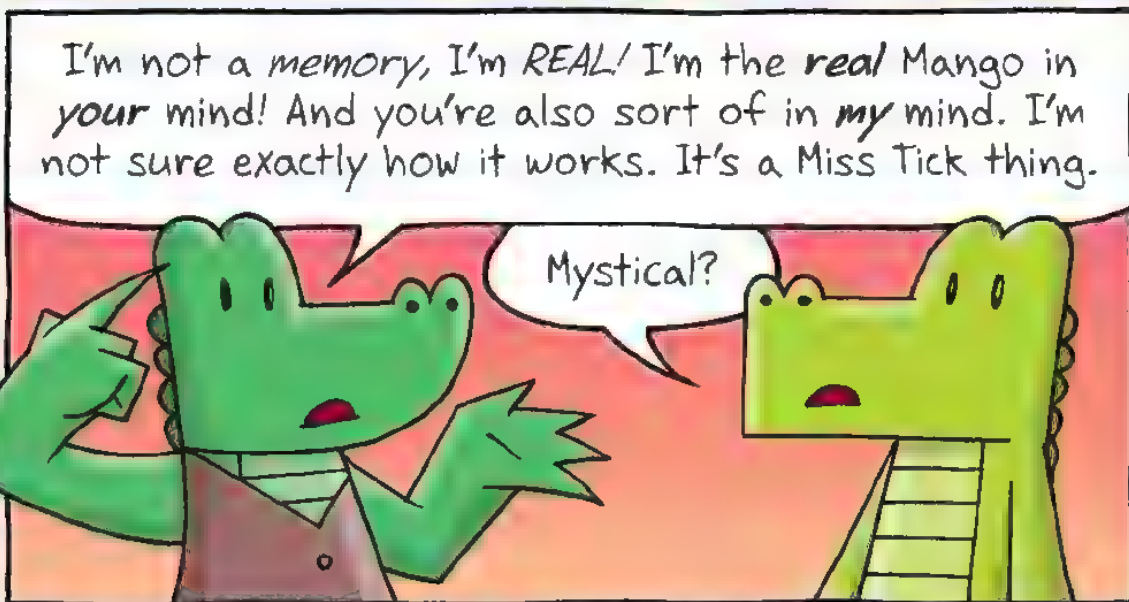






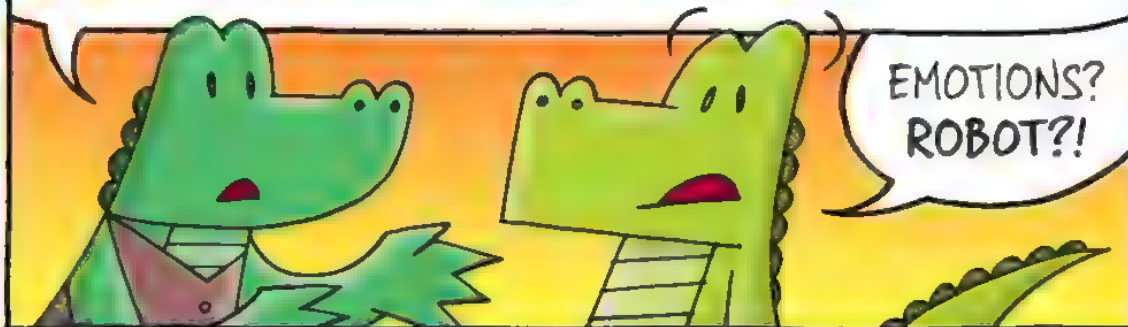








Not Miss *Tickle*, Miss *Tick*. Sorry, *MRS. Tick*. She got married. Anyway, since you've been asleep, Monocle built a robot copy of you called **RoboBrash** with your memories and emotions to be my partner—



Didn't anyone learn the lesson from **Robot Ghost**? Besides, I'd have thought **Cilantro** would be made your partner.



So did I! But I... I wasn't ready to let you go, and—



WHA—WHAT'S HAPPENING???

The dream is collapsing!

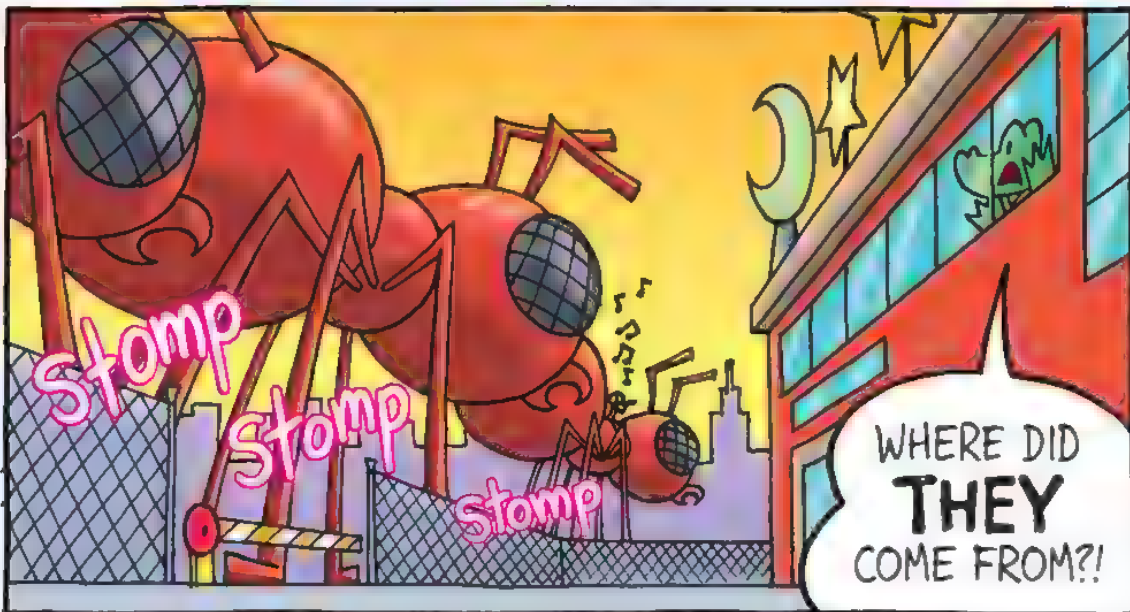


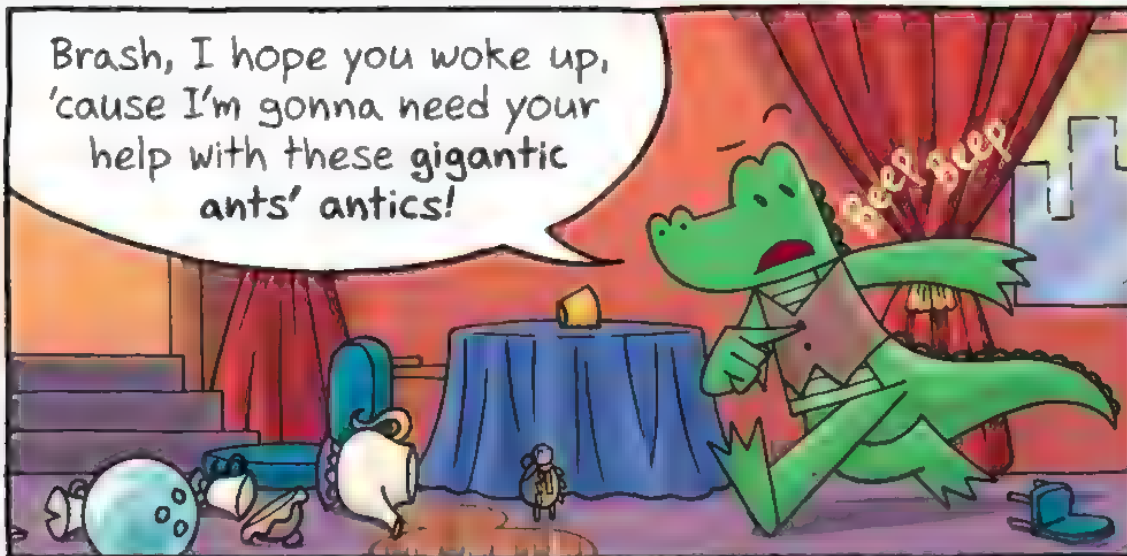
MANGO!













## Chapter 13

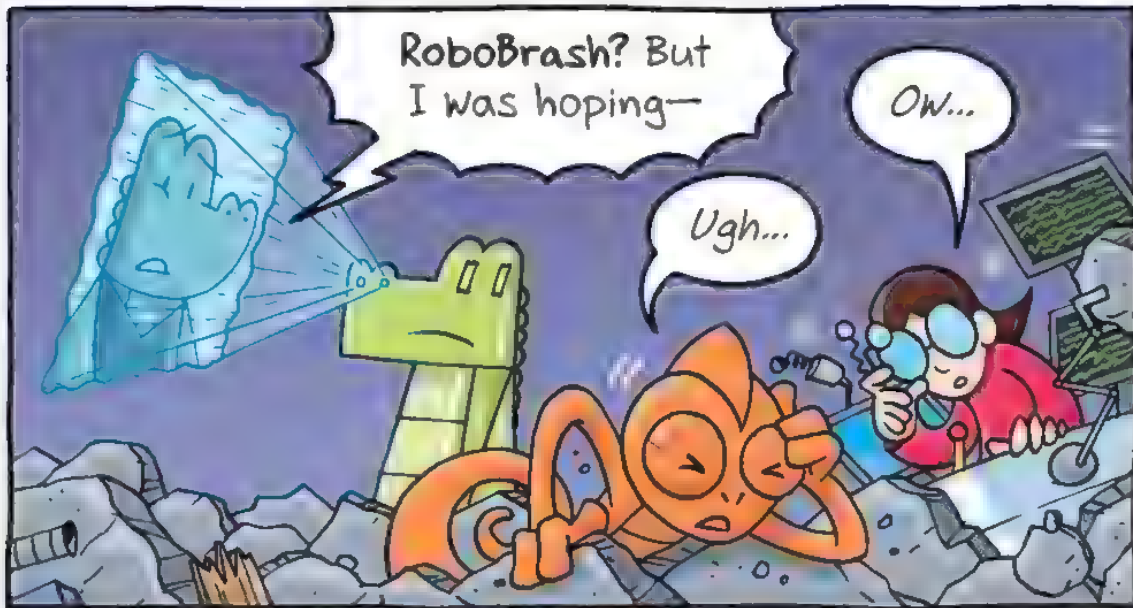
And RoboBrash is in rubble!



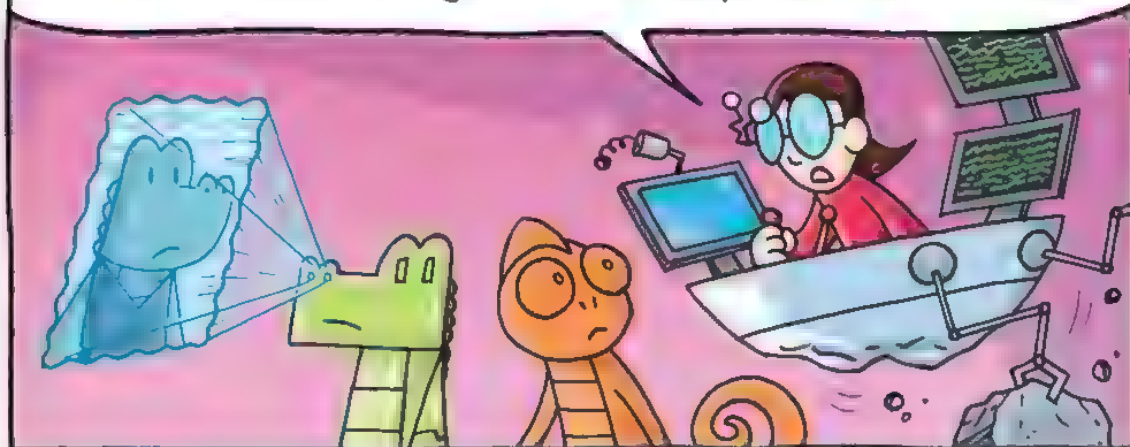
≡KSH≡ Brash! Br≡KSH≡  
are you awake?



Yes, Mango, I am awake!  
RoboBrash, reporting  
for duty.



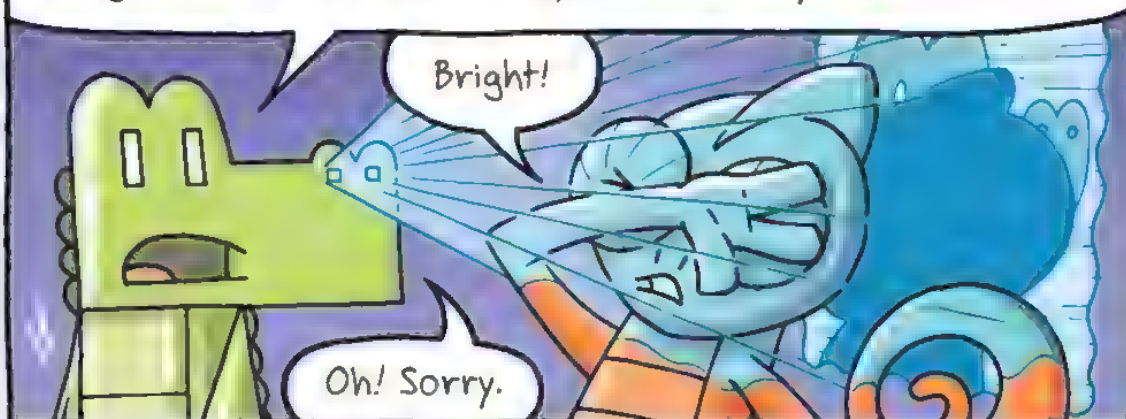
Houdino used the **EMBIGGENER**, but it *embiggened* the ants that were crawling on it. They **BURST OUT OF THE GROUND**, leaving S.U.I.T. Headquarters in **RVINS!**



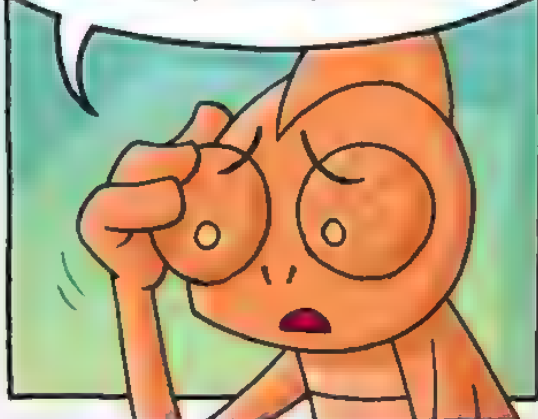




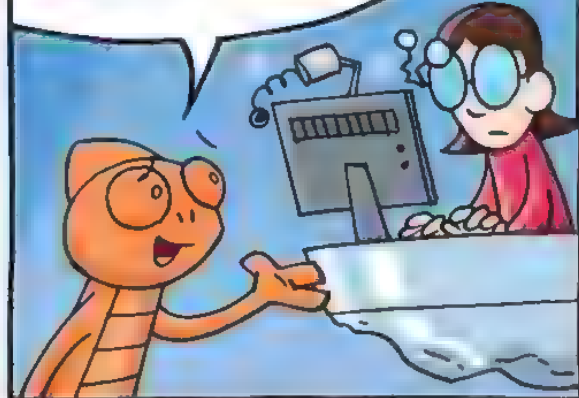
You're...*right*, Cilantro. And I now realize how *wrong* I was to rat you out earlier. But I won't make that mistake again. Mango and I can't take on *three giant ants PLUS two supervillains* by ourselves.



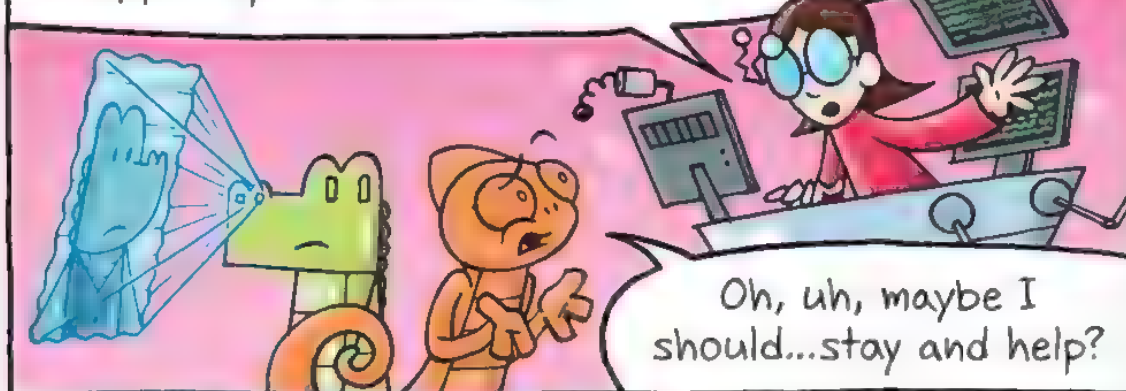
Wow... *Three* ants and *two* supervillains, huh? Well, then, um...



...then we should take Monocle with us, too!

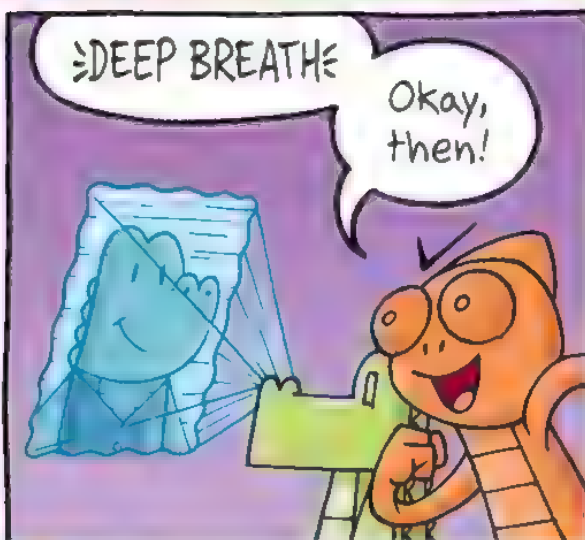
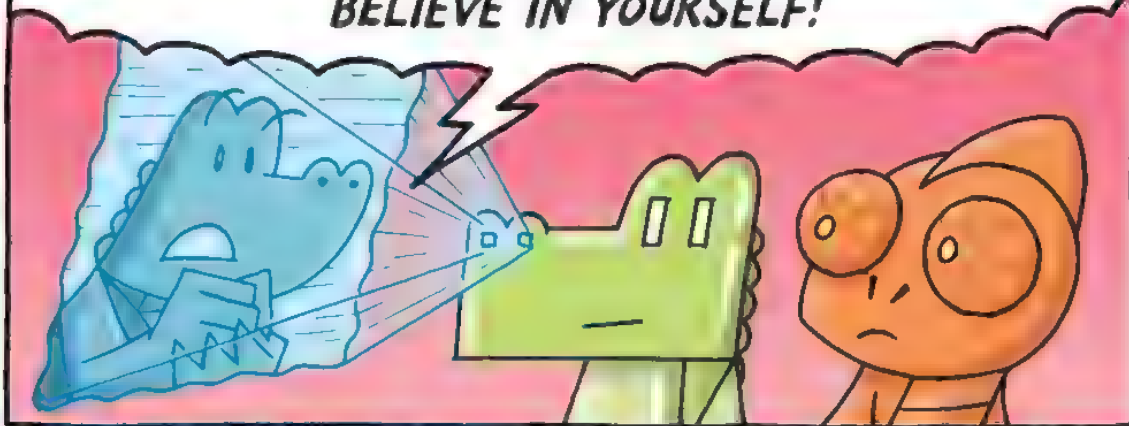


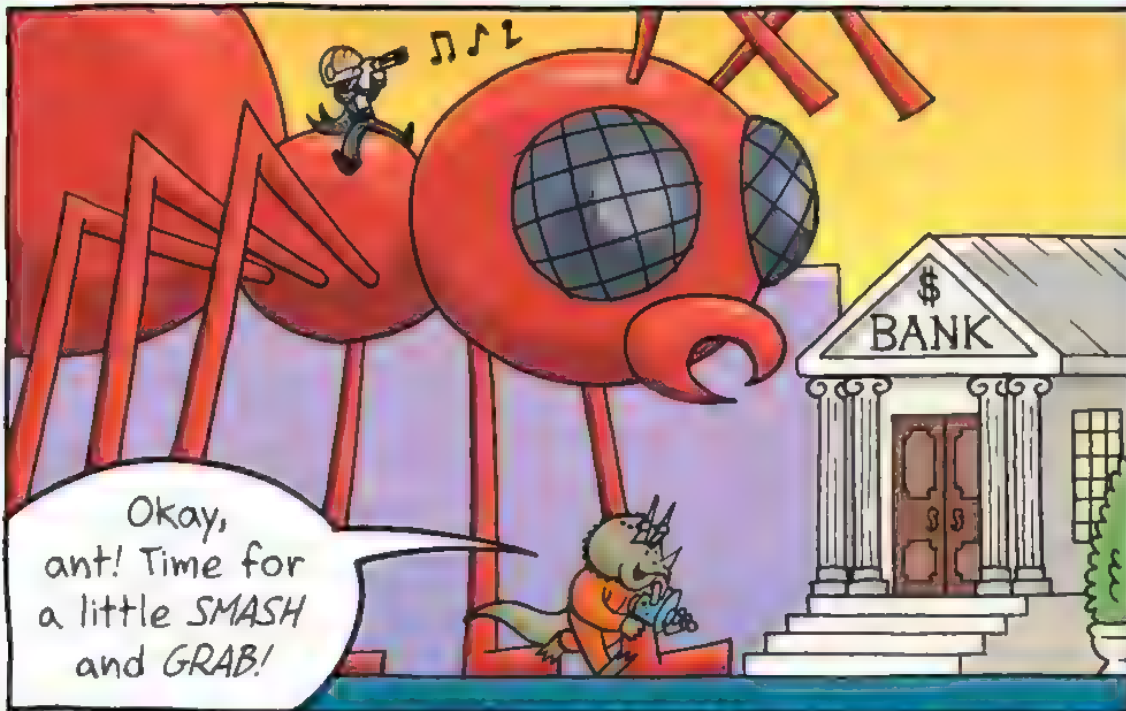
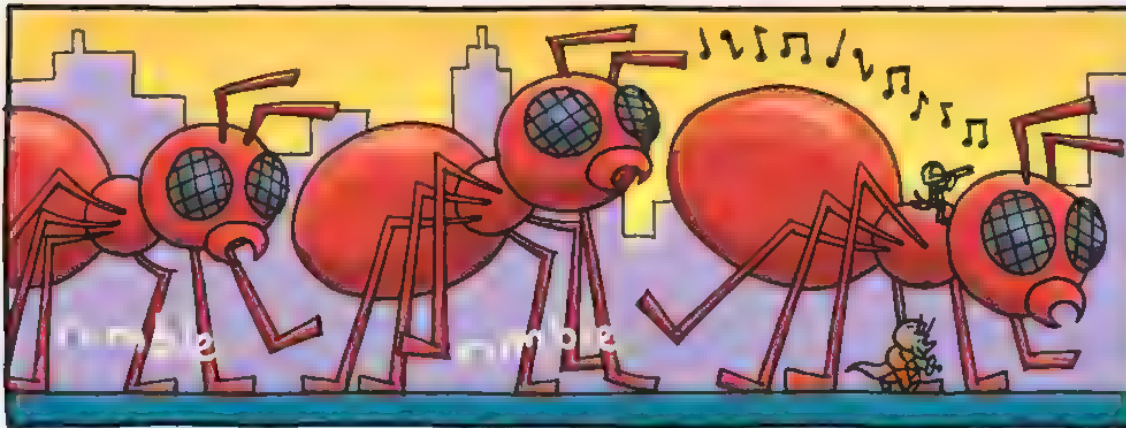
I need to stay here to get S.U.I.T.'s networks up and running again, and help out any agents trapped by the devastation.



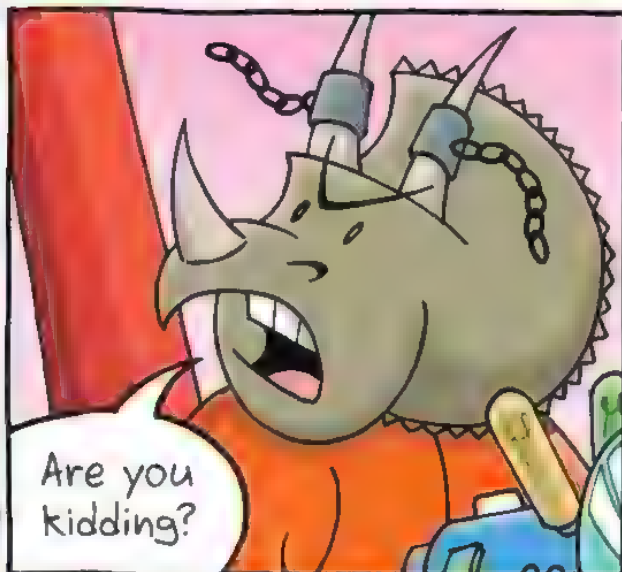
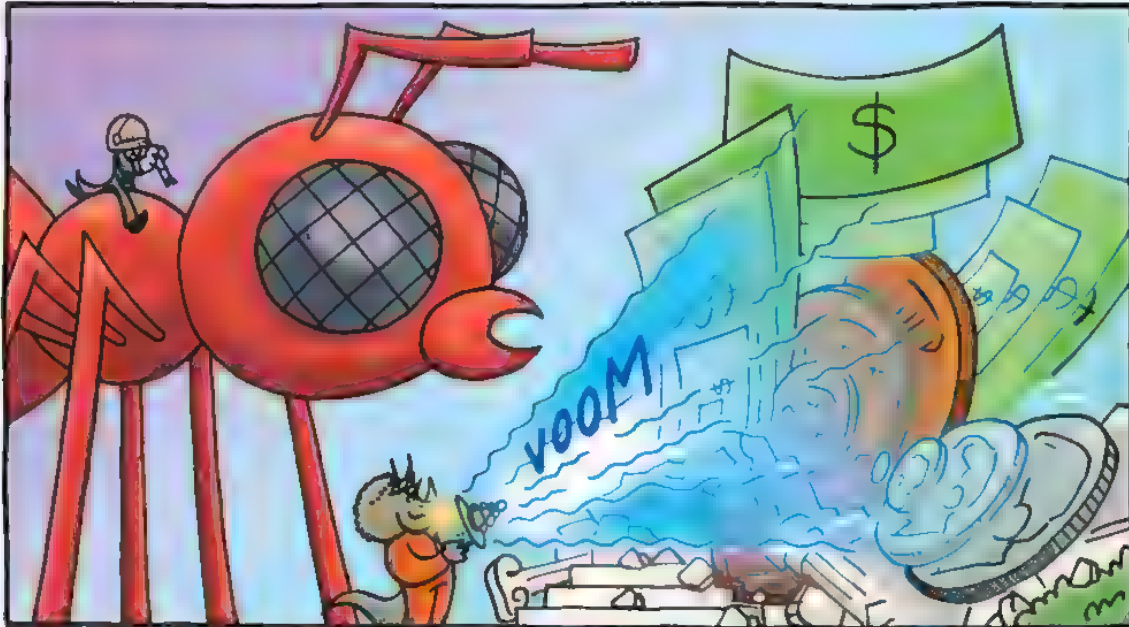


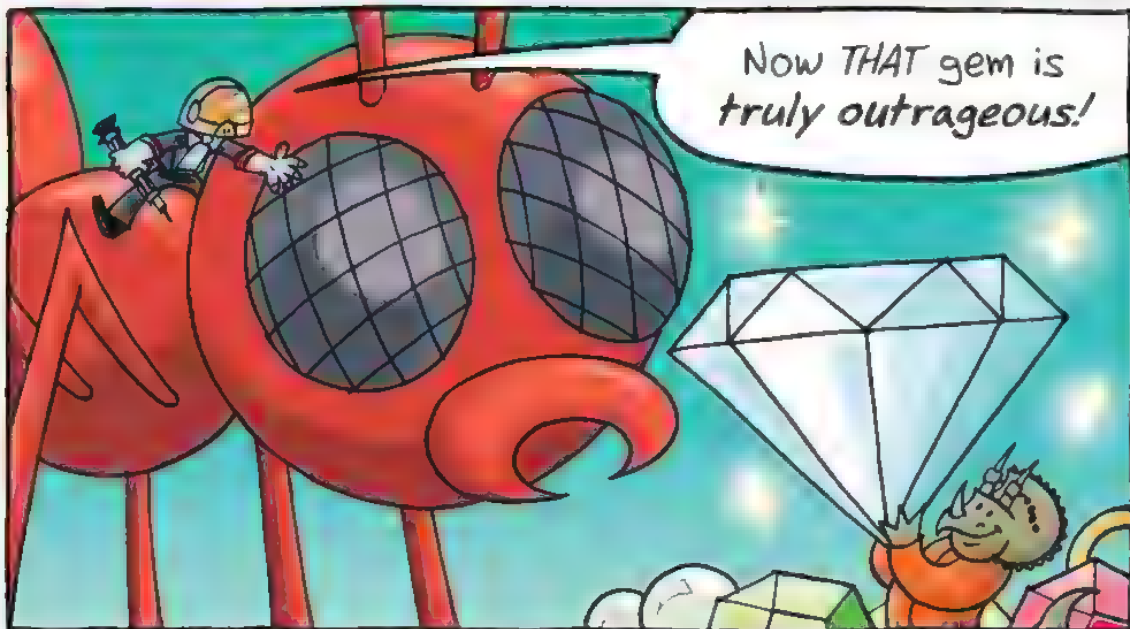
We *need* you out in the field, Cilantro! I know you're nervous, but you can *do* this! But it's not important that *I* believe in you. What matters is that you **BELIEVE IN YOURSELF!**



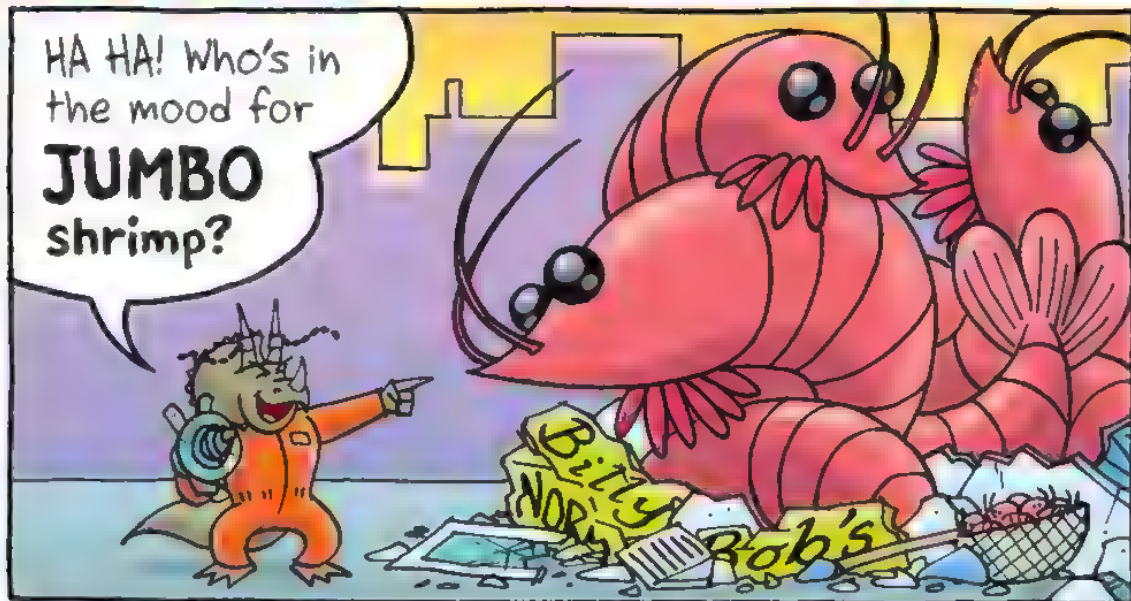
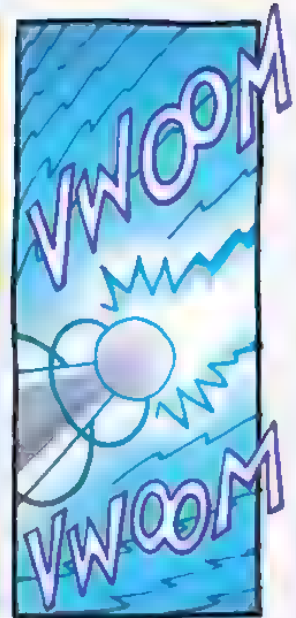












GOOD NEWS, viewers! That rumbling you've been feeling is *NOT* a flood. But BAD NEWS, it *IS* a *WAVE OF CRIME!*



LIVE NOW — OUT OF THE NEWS — ACTION NEWS NOW — DO DO

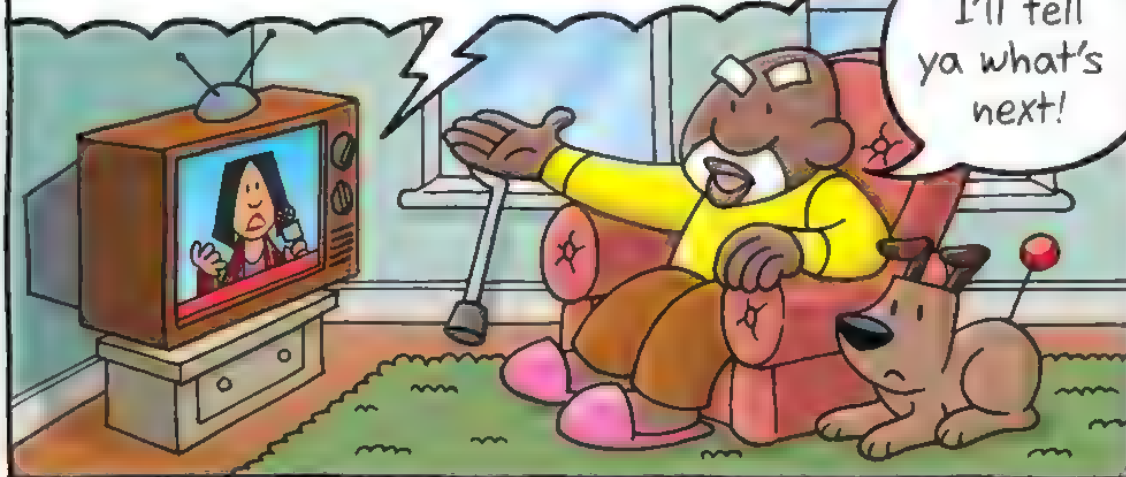
Billy Bob, what are you going to do with all these jumbo shrimp since your store got battered?

Well, I think I'll give 'em to charity. It'd be **SHELLFISH** to keep 'em!

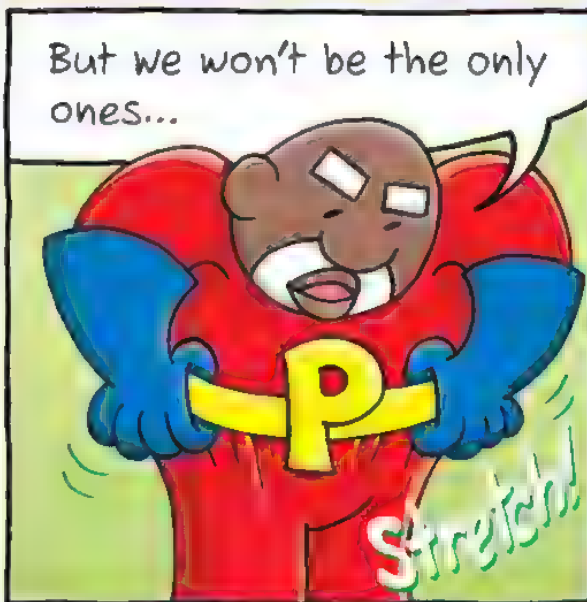


Banks, jewelers, prawn shops... No store is safe! Where's that Anti-Crime Unit? Now there's an **ANTY** Crime Unit!! **WHAT'S NEXT???**

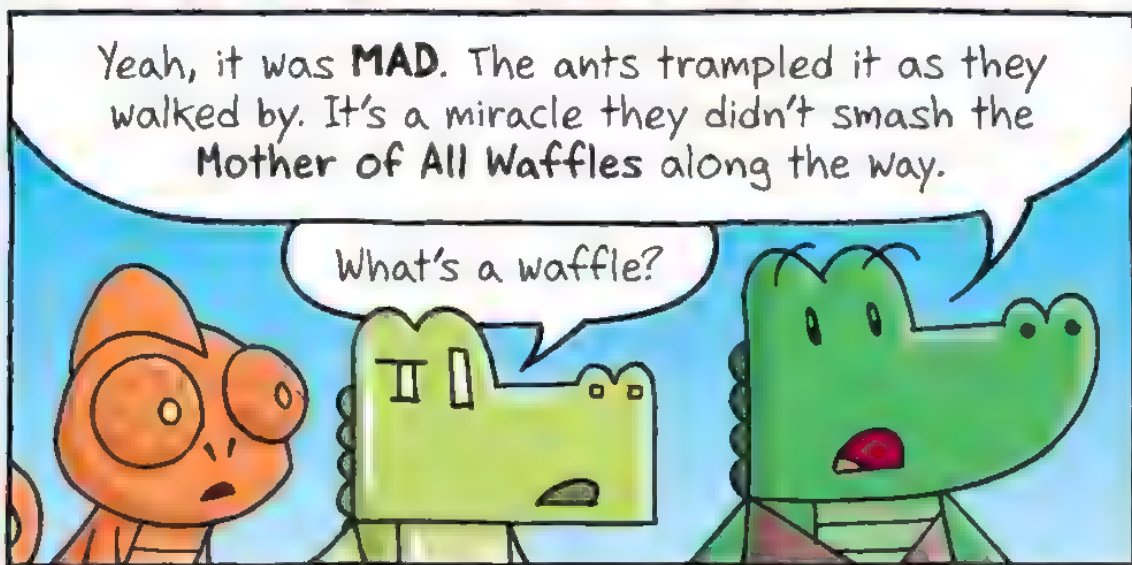
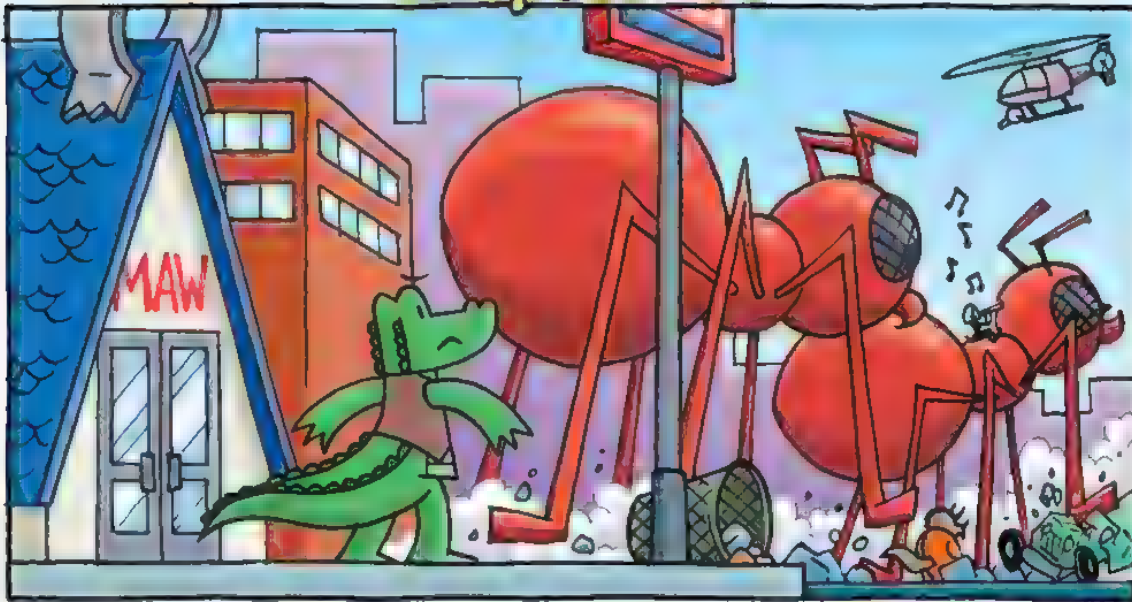
I'll tell ya what's next!



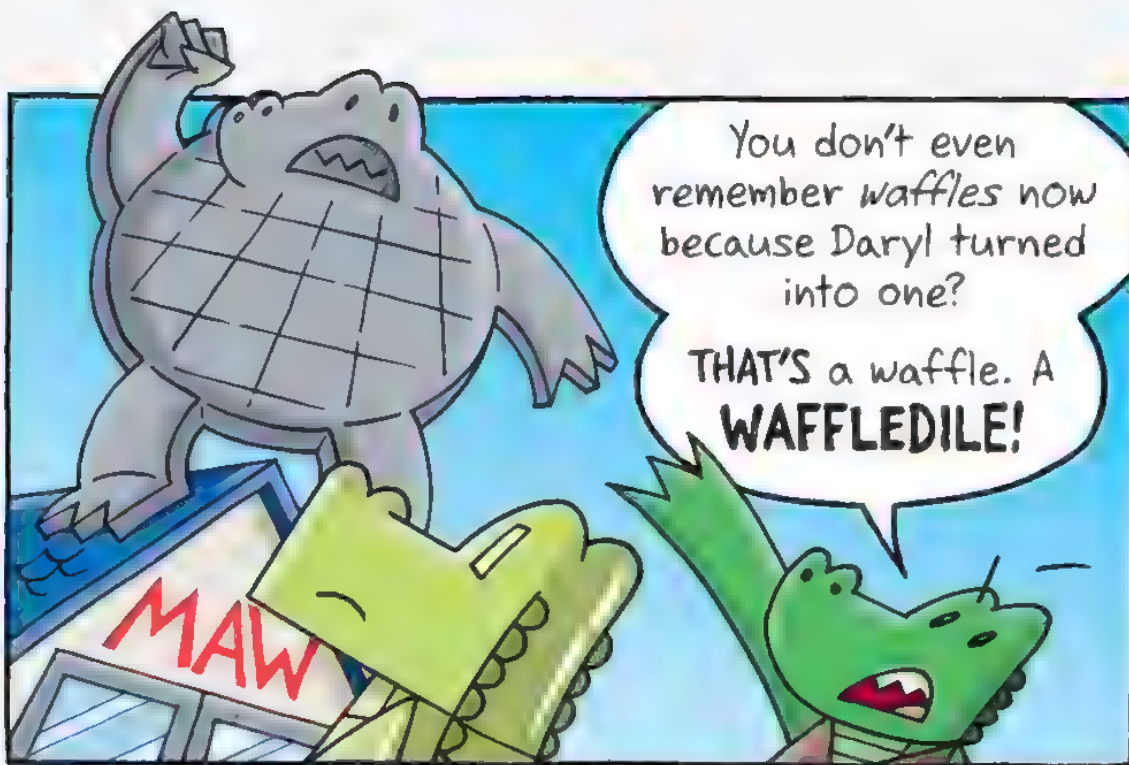


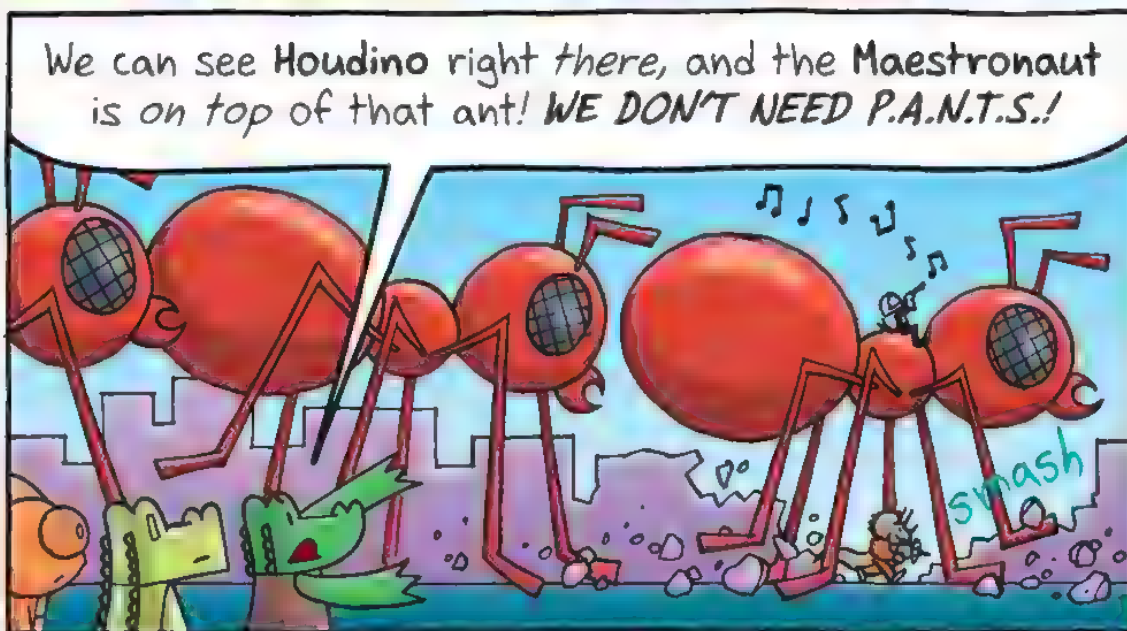
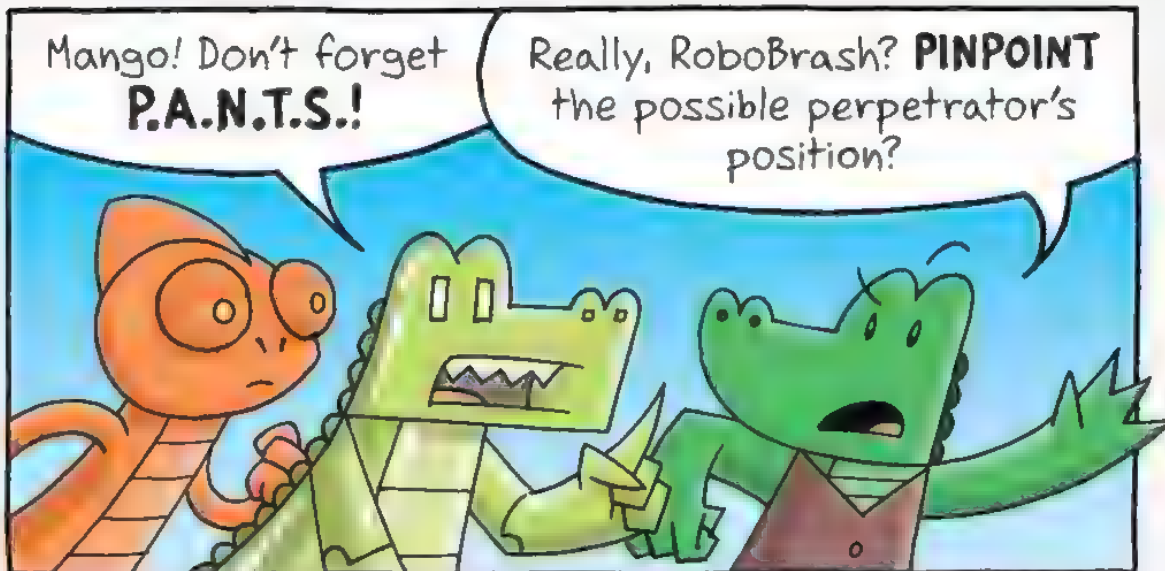


## Chapter 14











If that Embiggener has a reverse switch, we can use it to *de-bigger* those ants back to normal size. Can you *blend in* to sneak up on Houdino and take it from him?



As long as he's under that ant, anyone who tries to get near him would be *squashed*!



Then we have to *LURE* Houdino out or get the ants to *LEAVE*...

My V.E.S.T. wasn't designed for *this* scenario!



OOH, I KNOW!



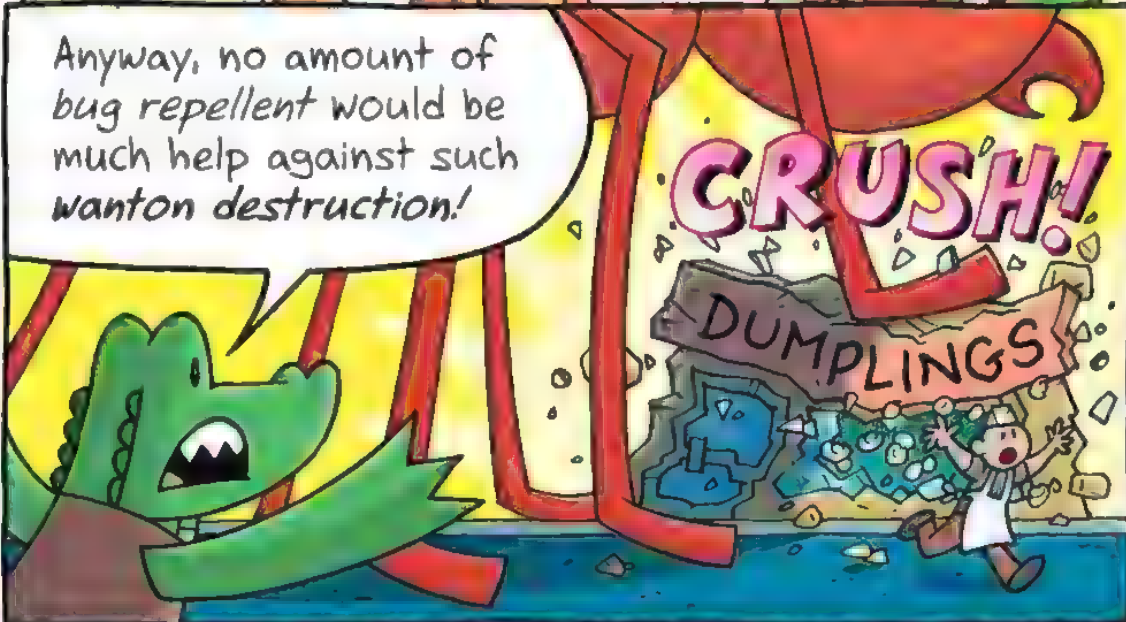




Dang it, this isn't **ANT SPRAY**—it's **PLEASANT SPRAY**!  
It's just *air freshener*!

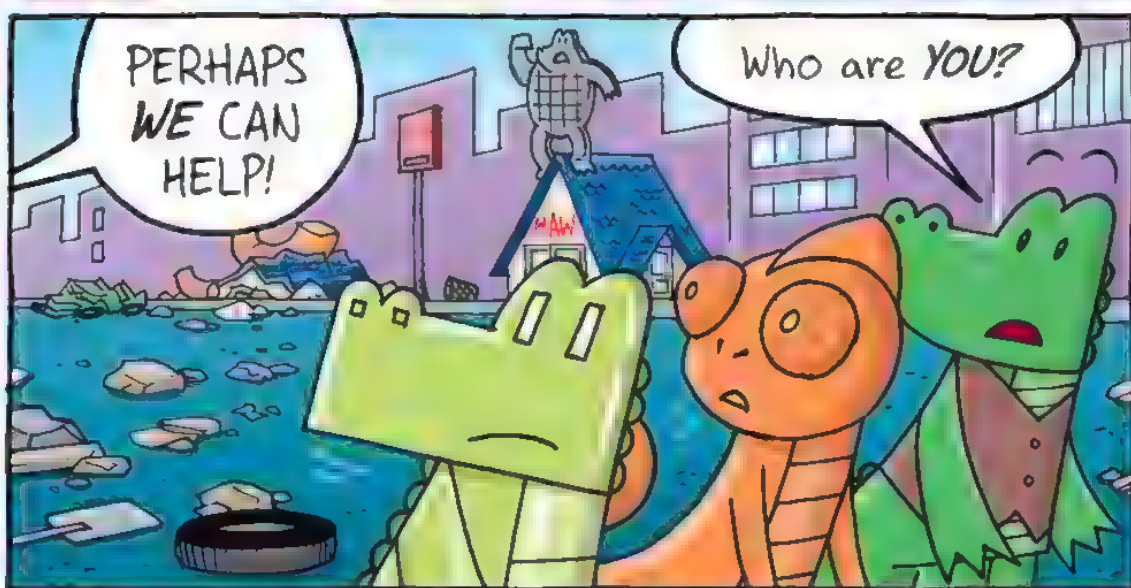


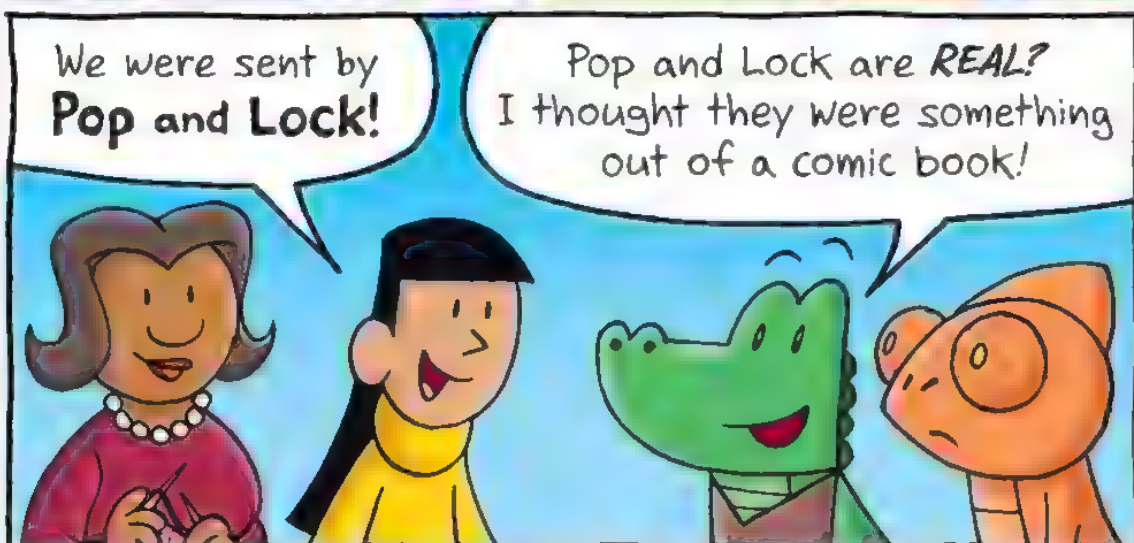
Anyway, no amount of bug repellent would be much help against such *wanton destruction*!



PERHAPS  
**WE CAN  
HELP!**

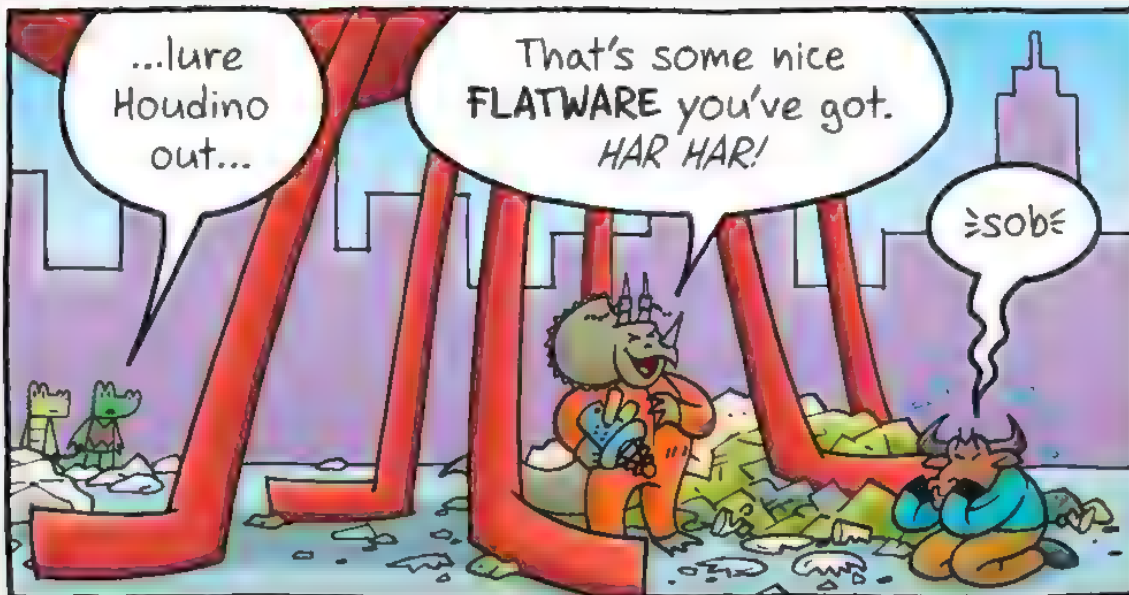
Who are **YOU**?











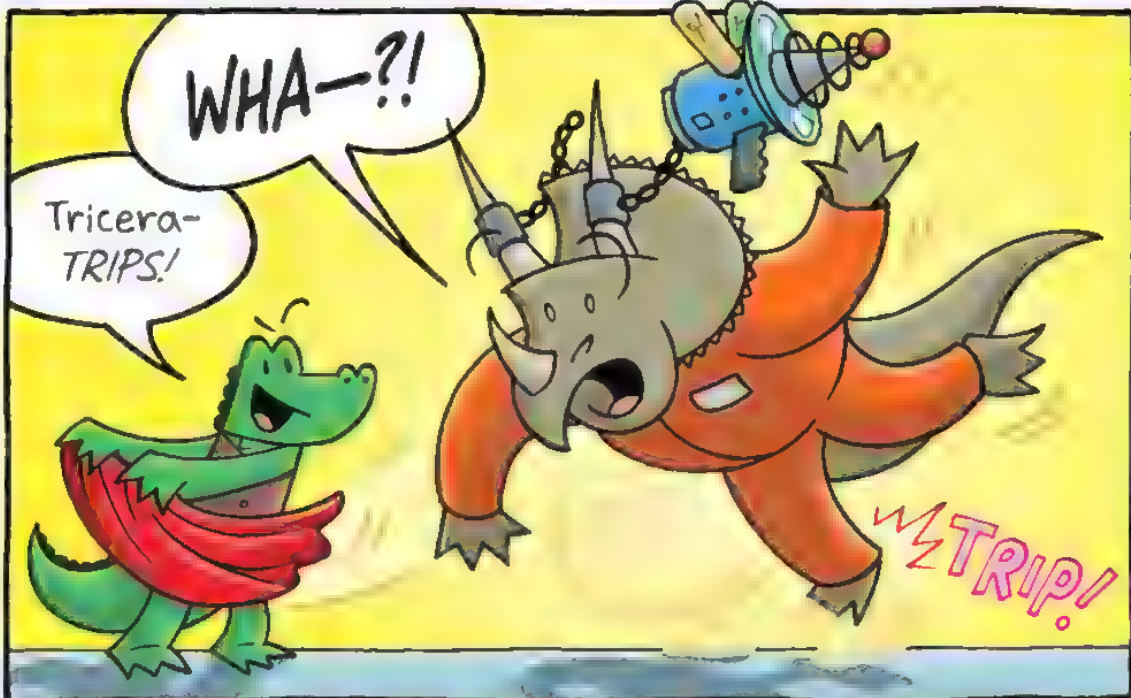




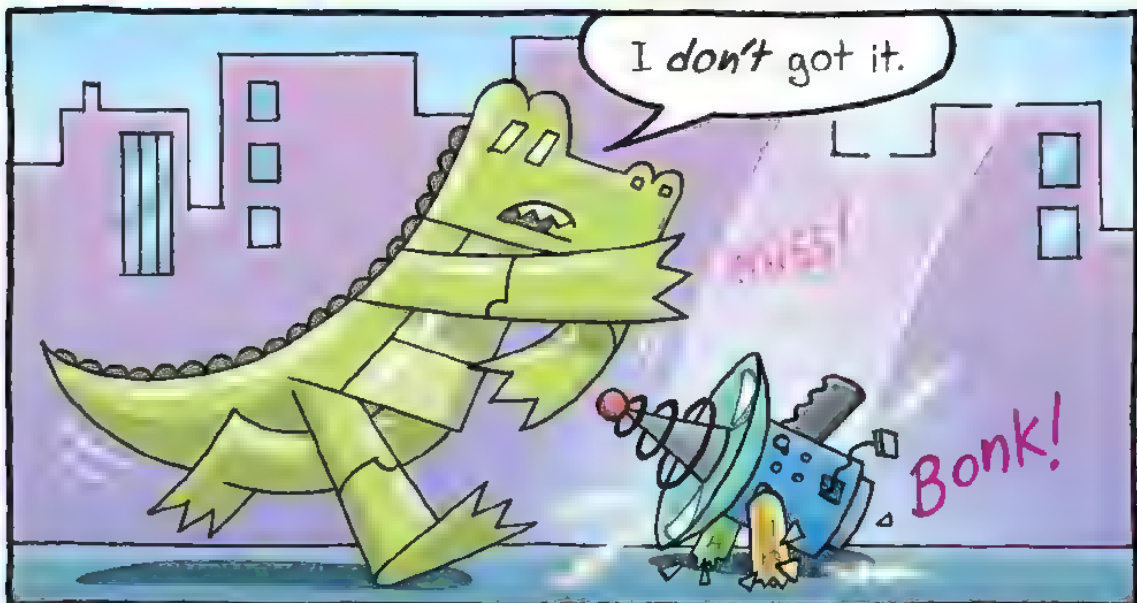
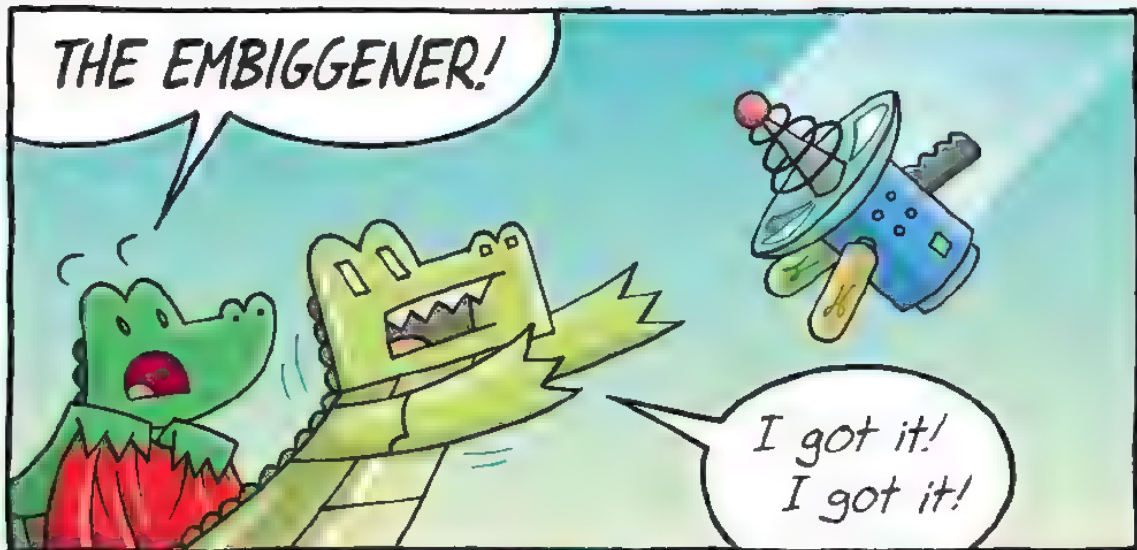


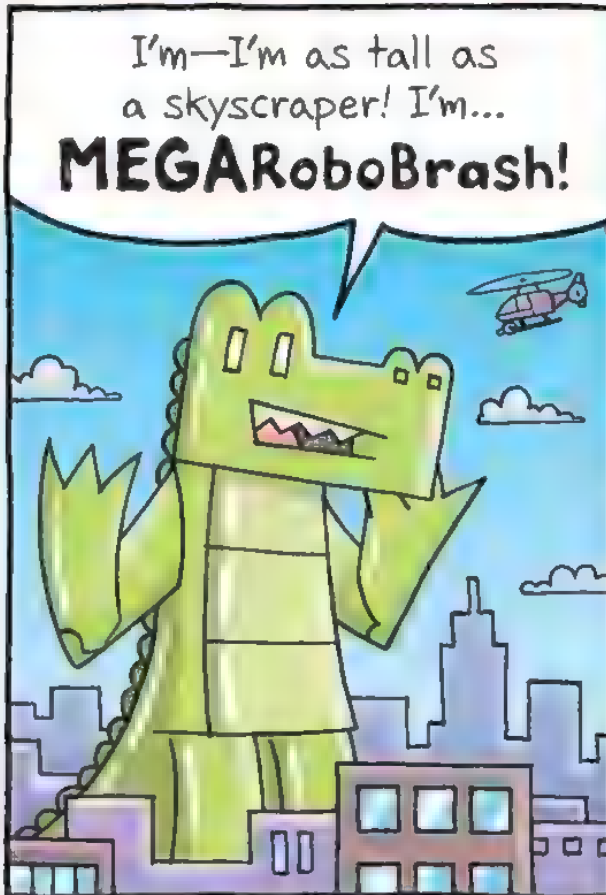
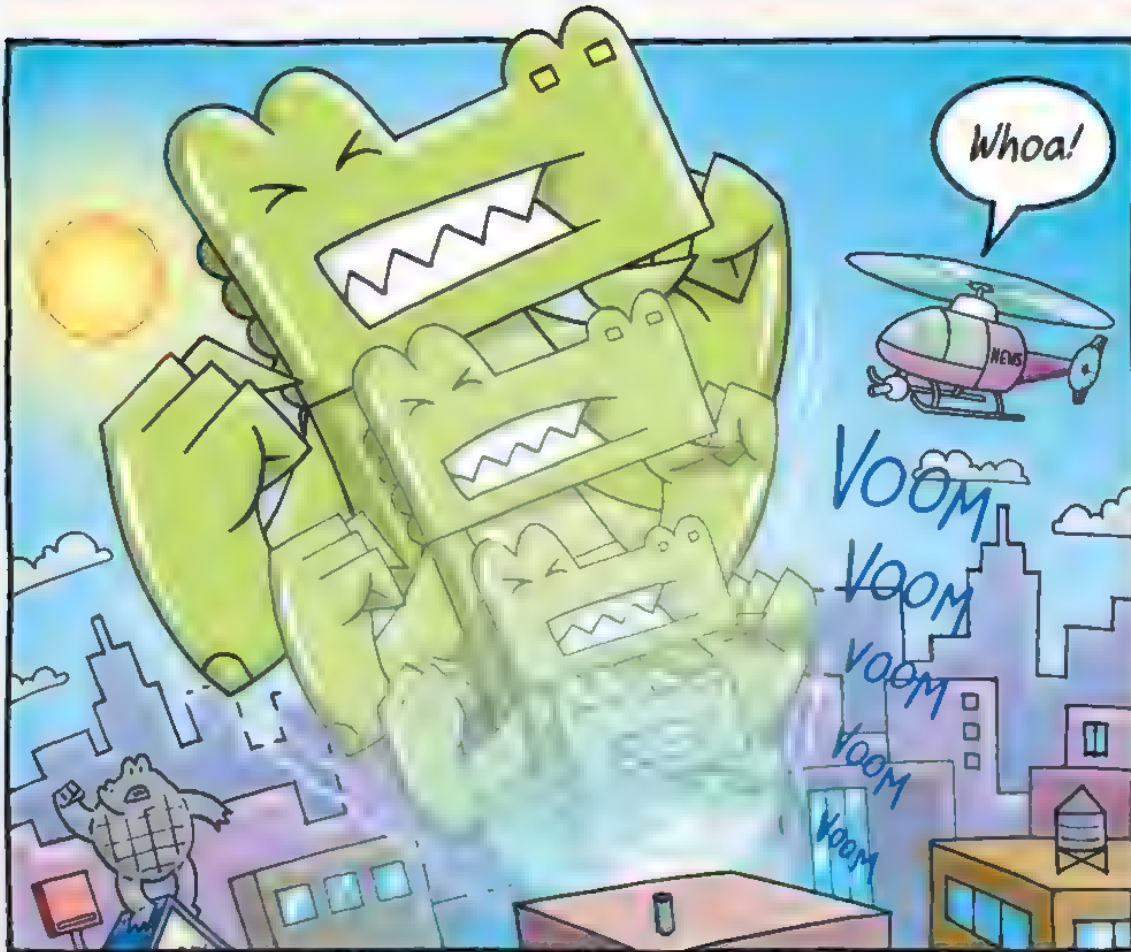


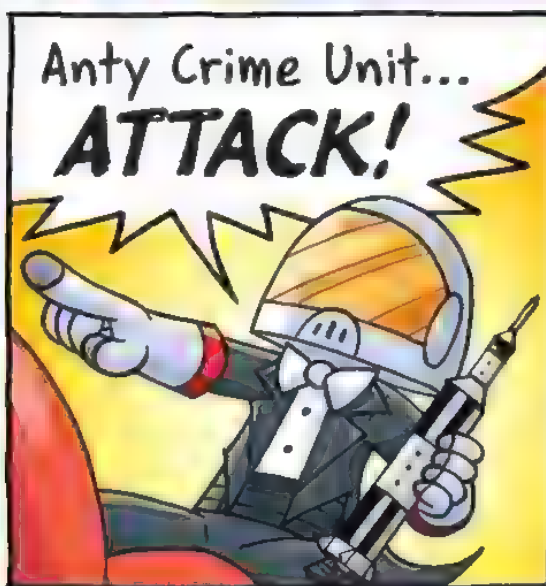
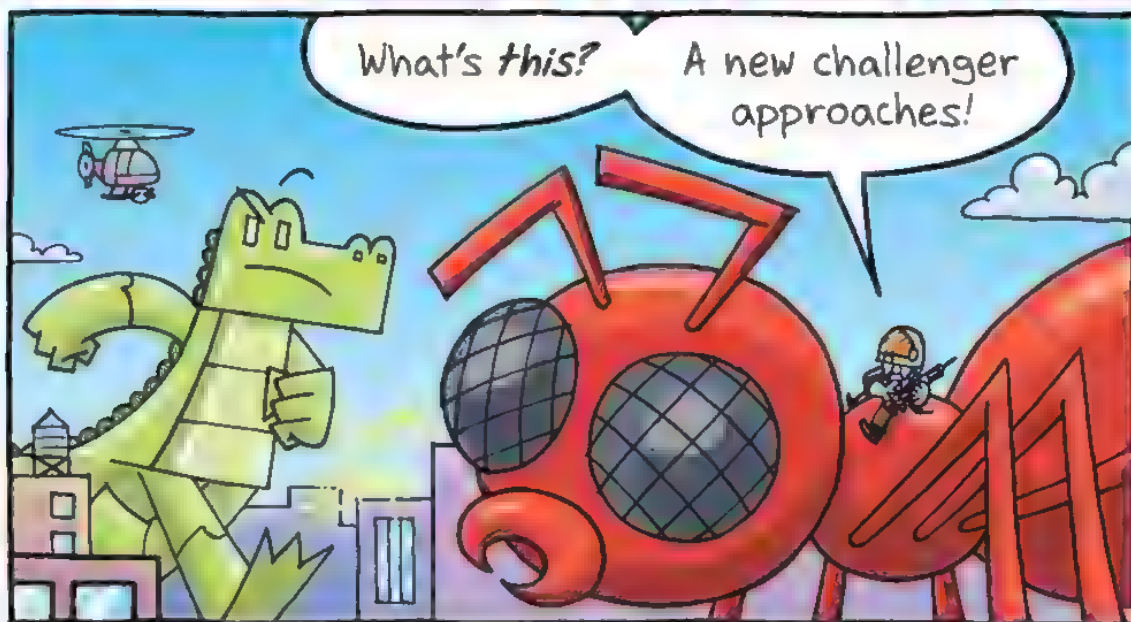




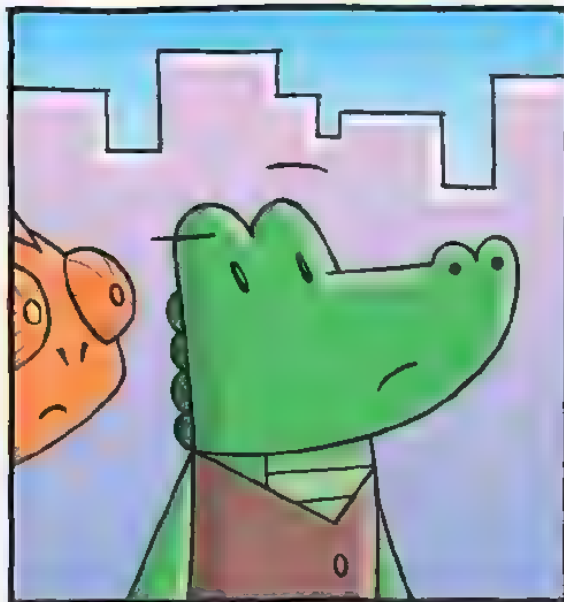
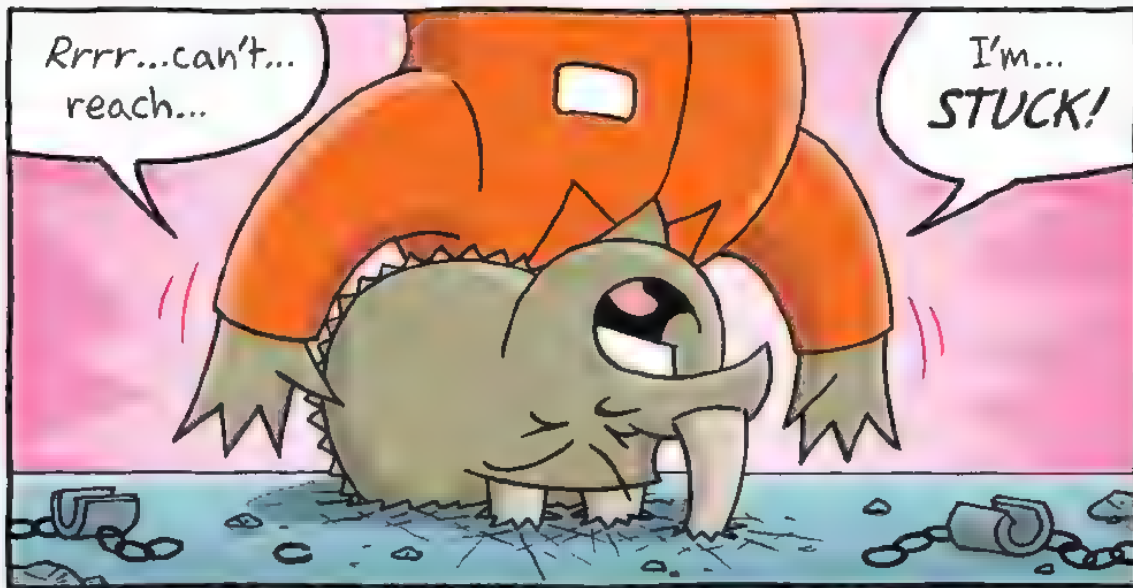


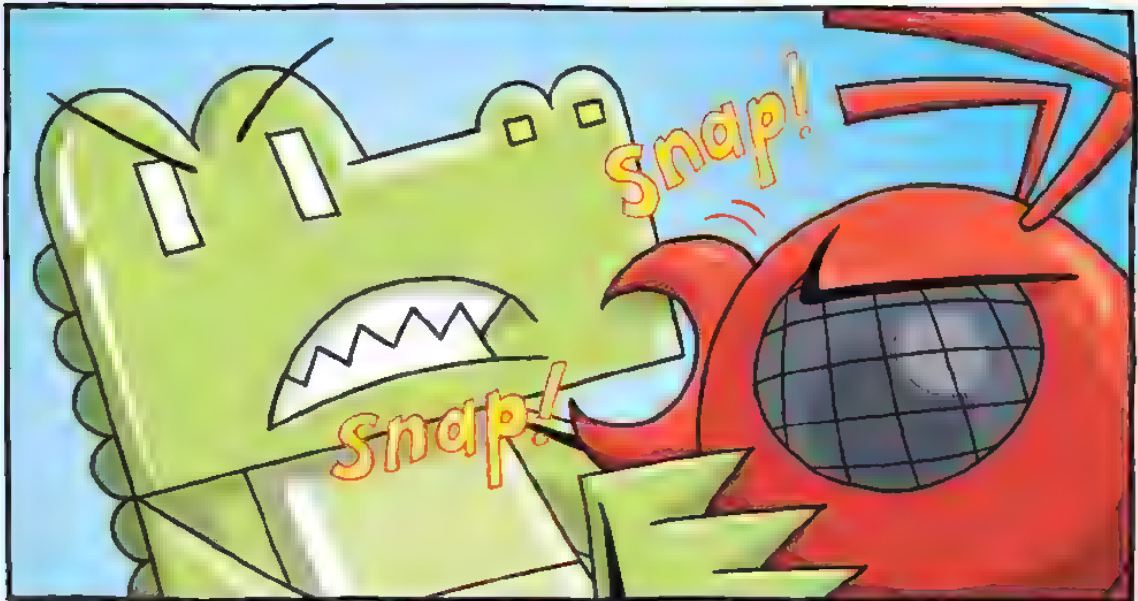
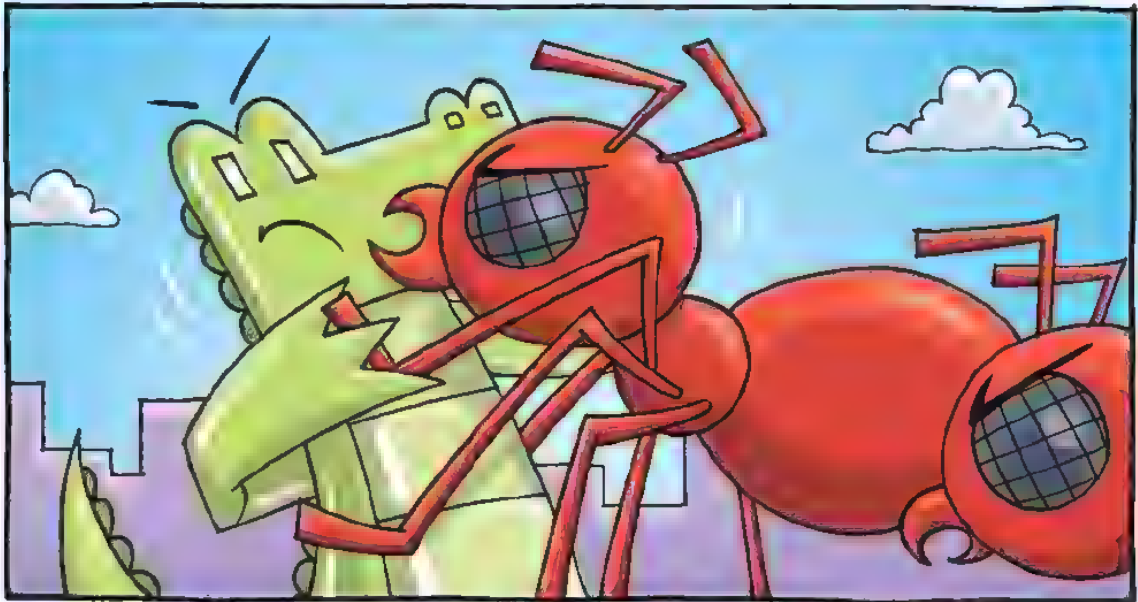
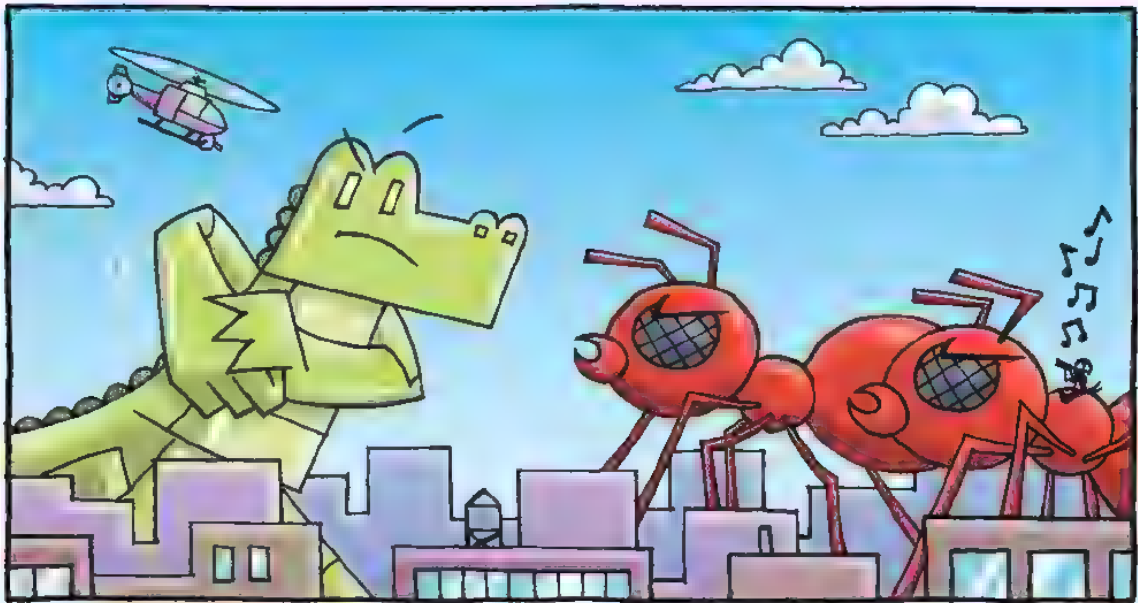


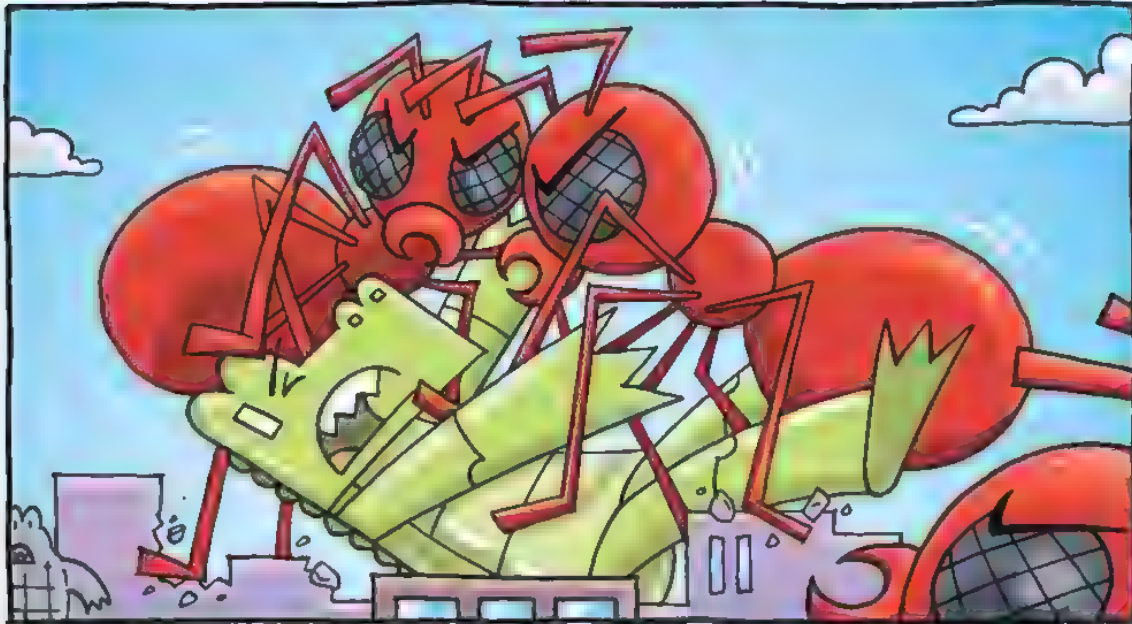
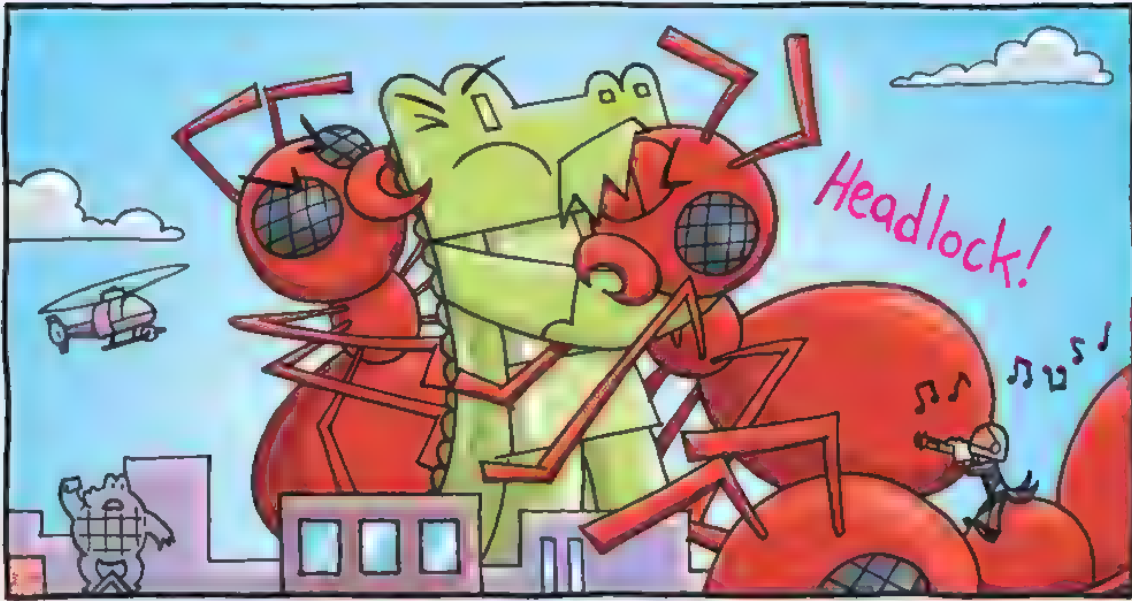




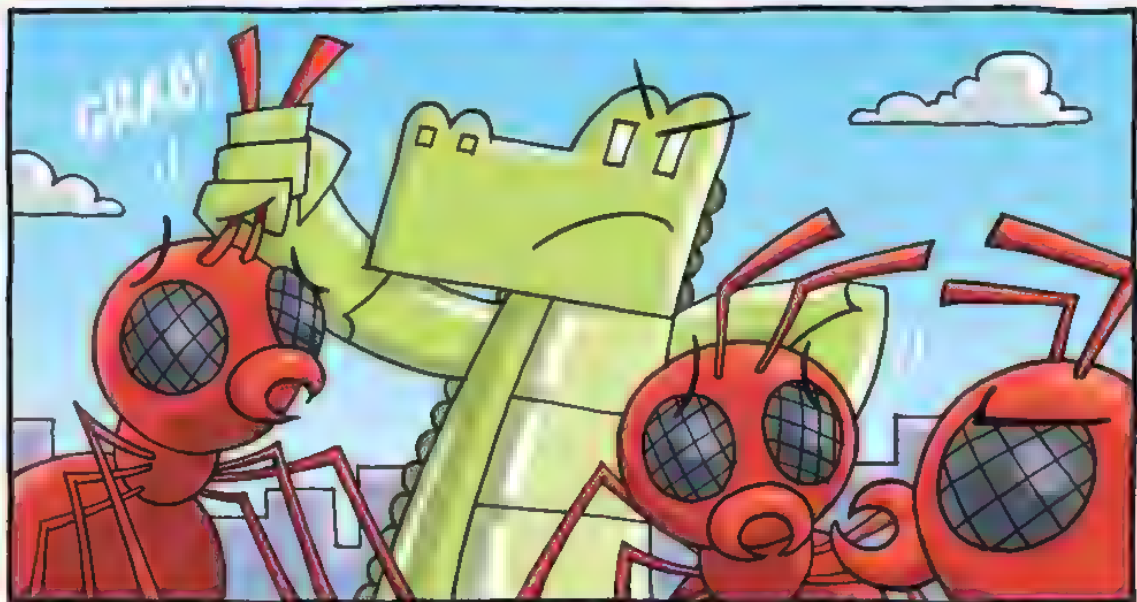
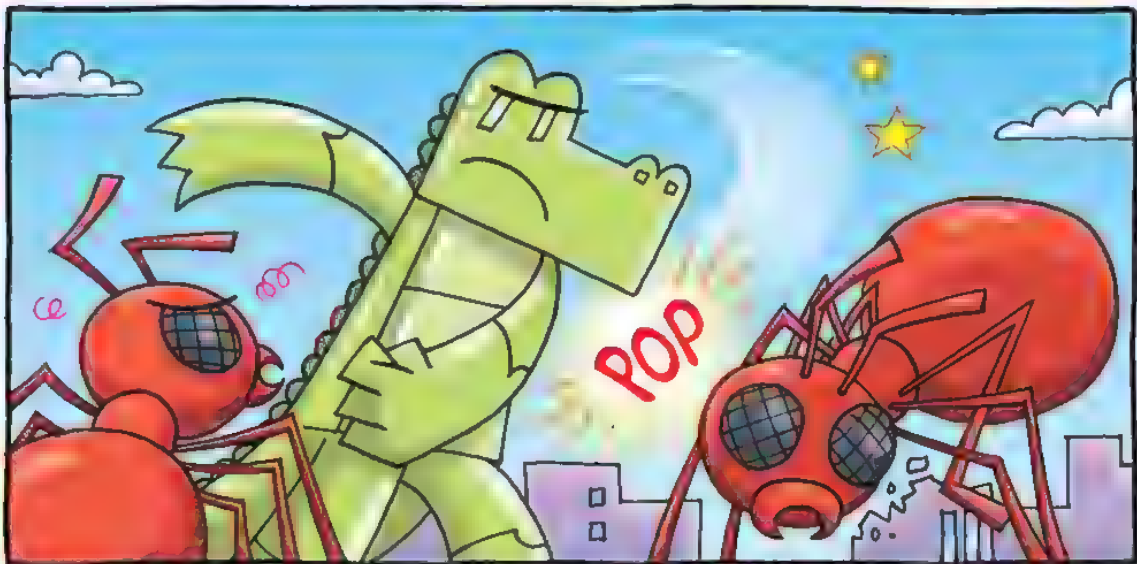


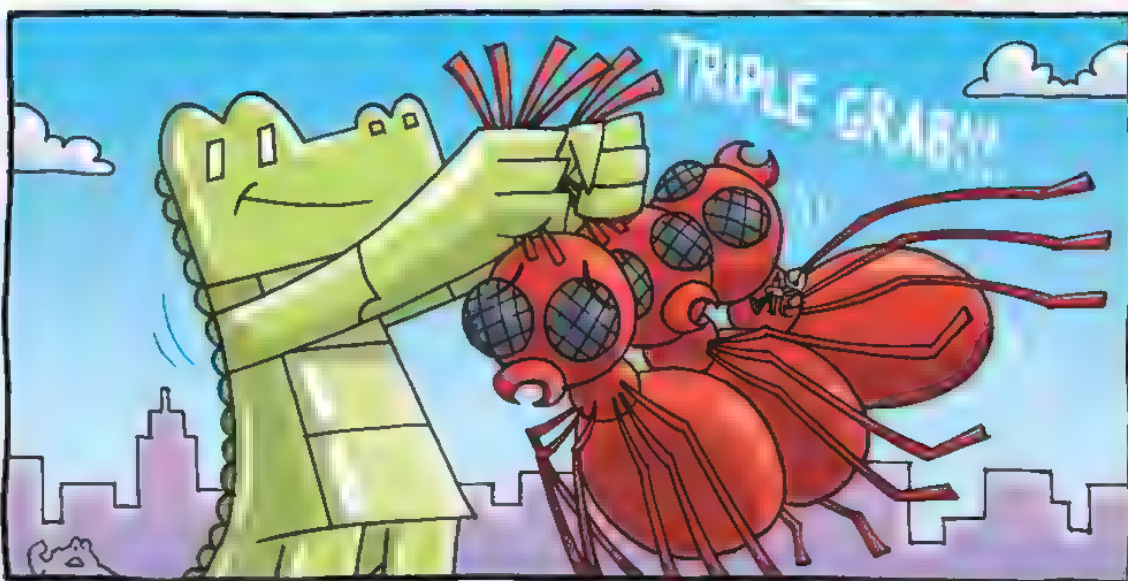
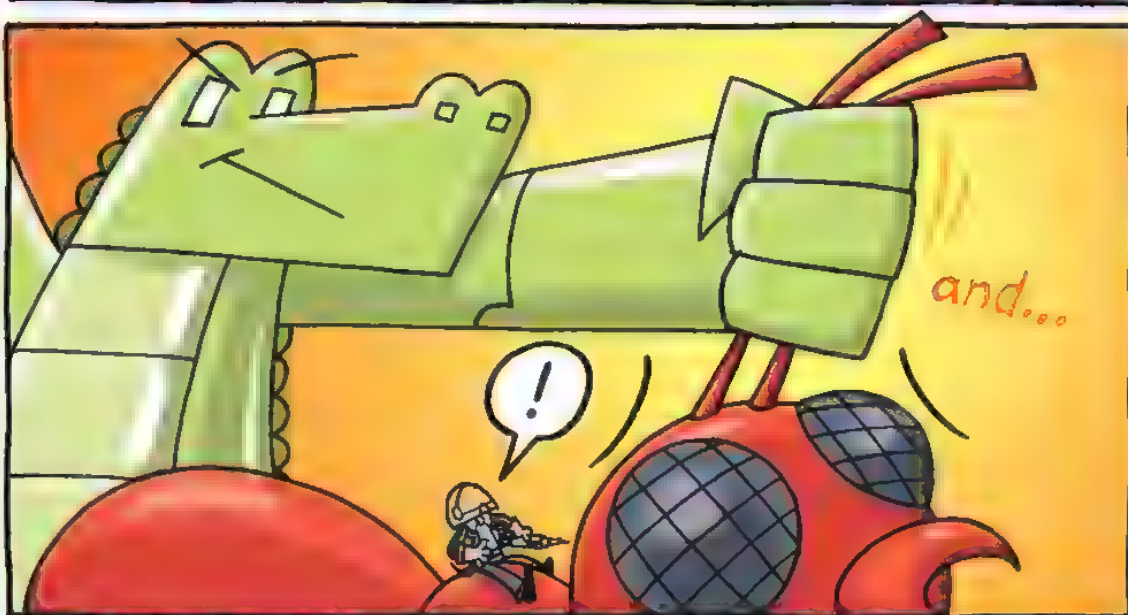
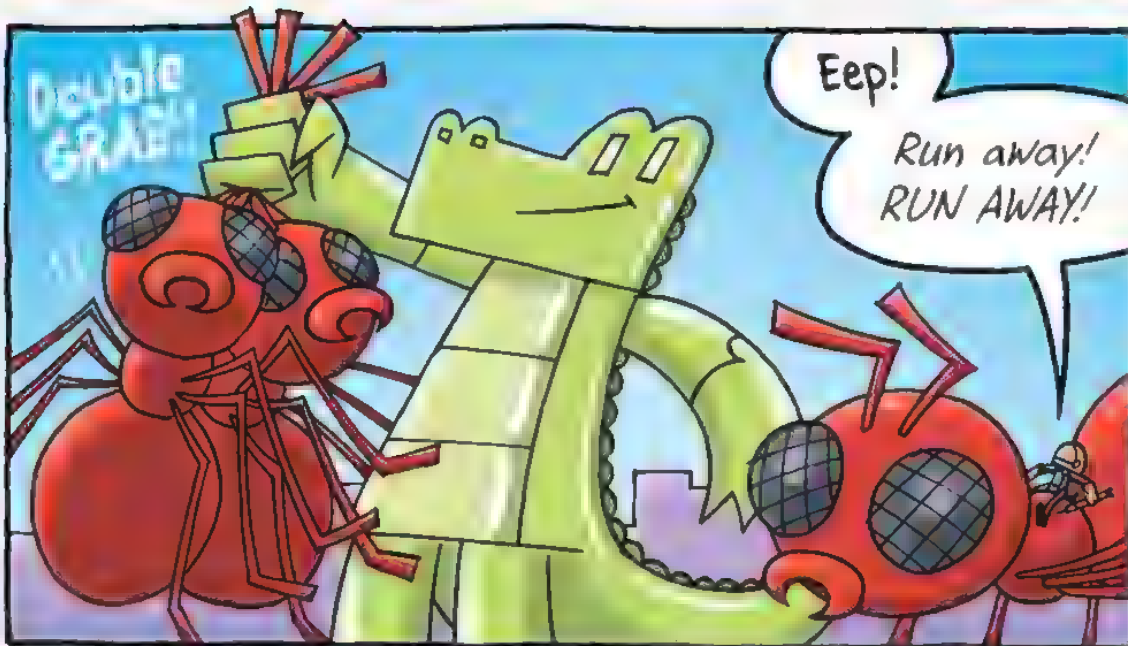


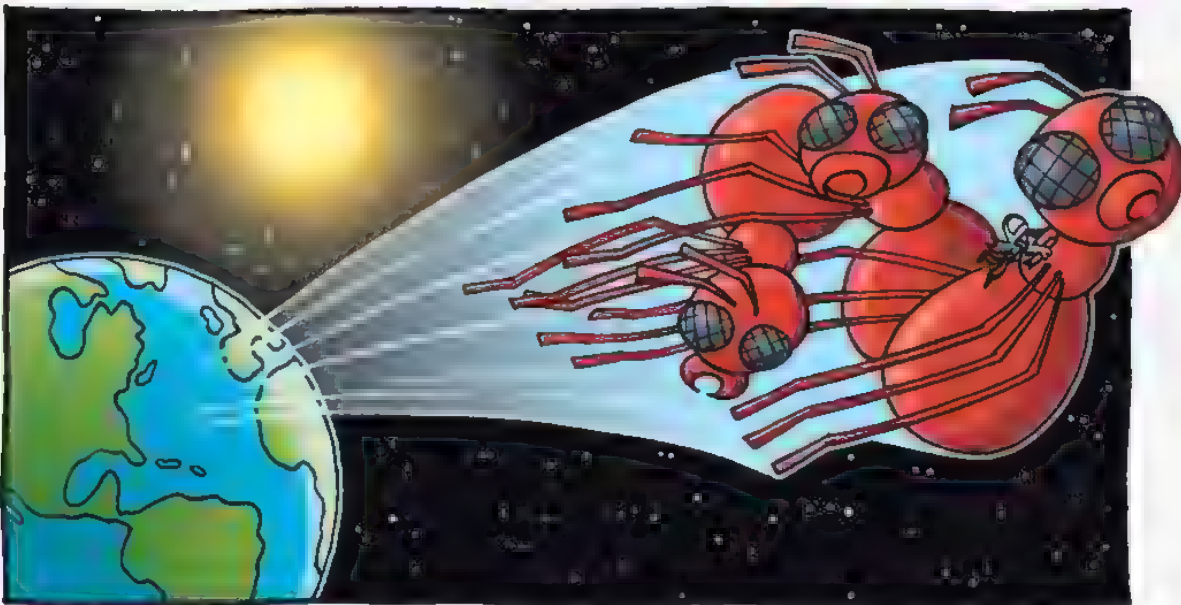
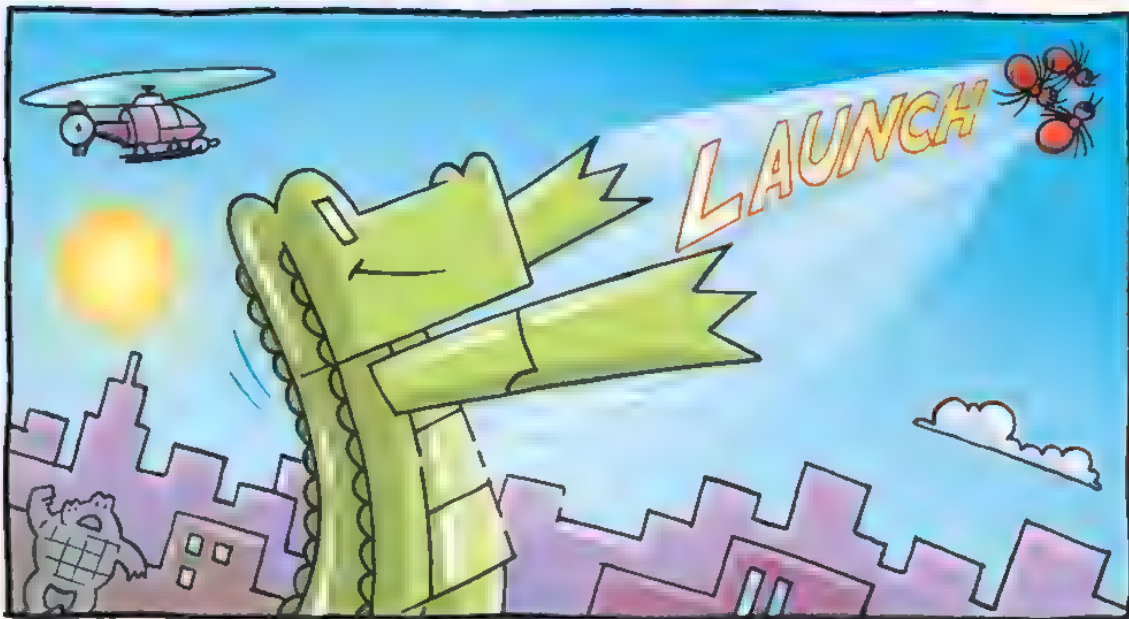
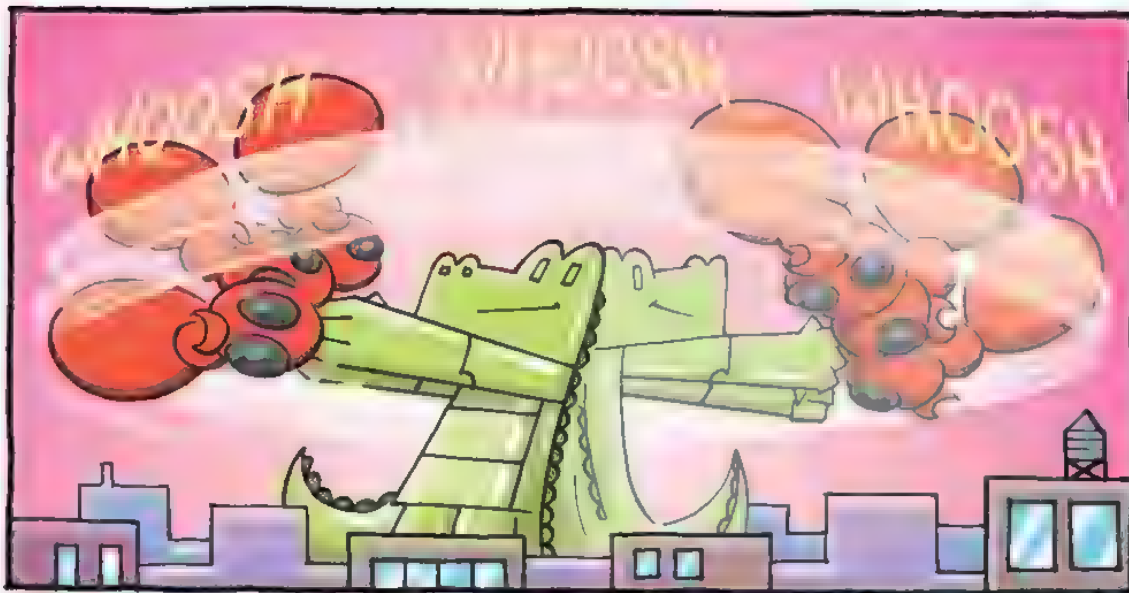




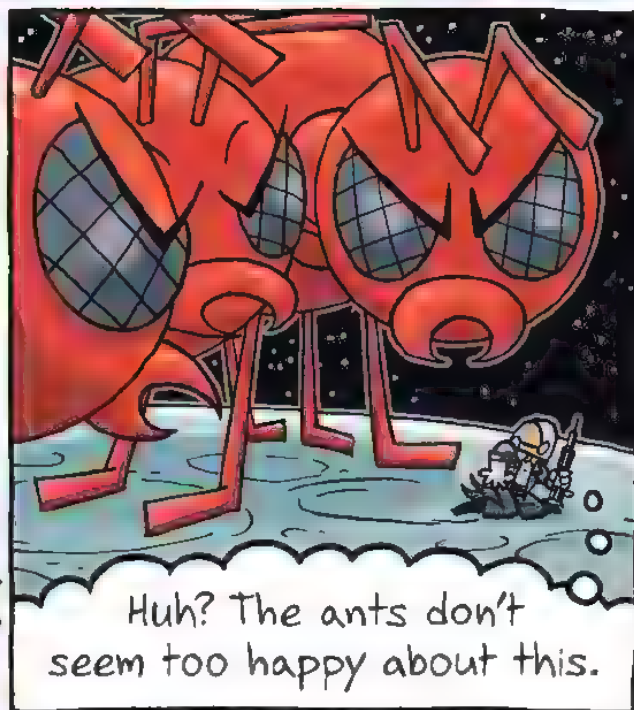
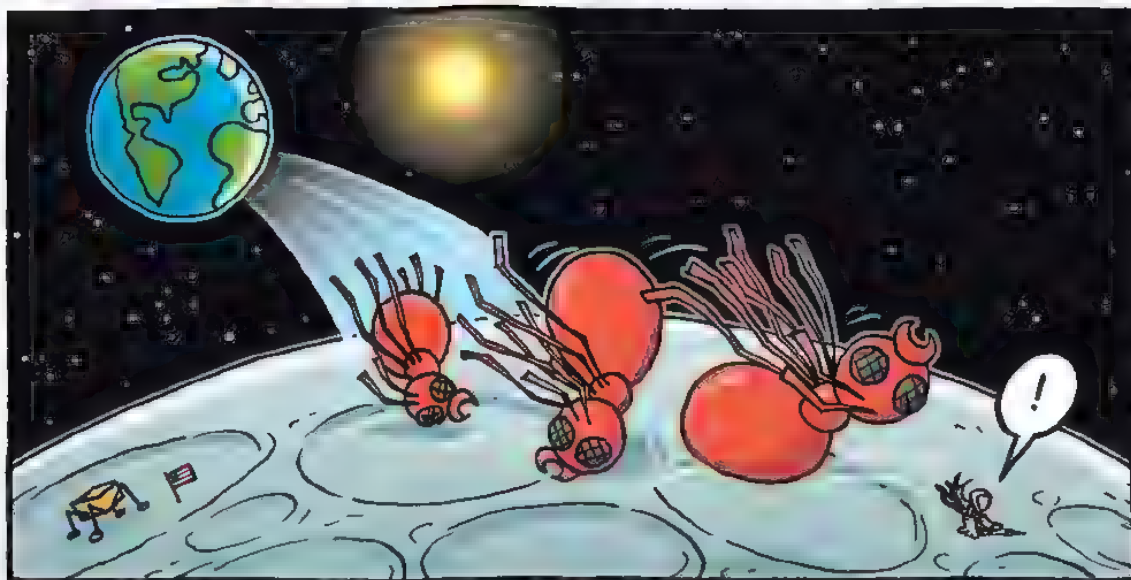
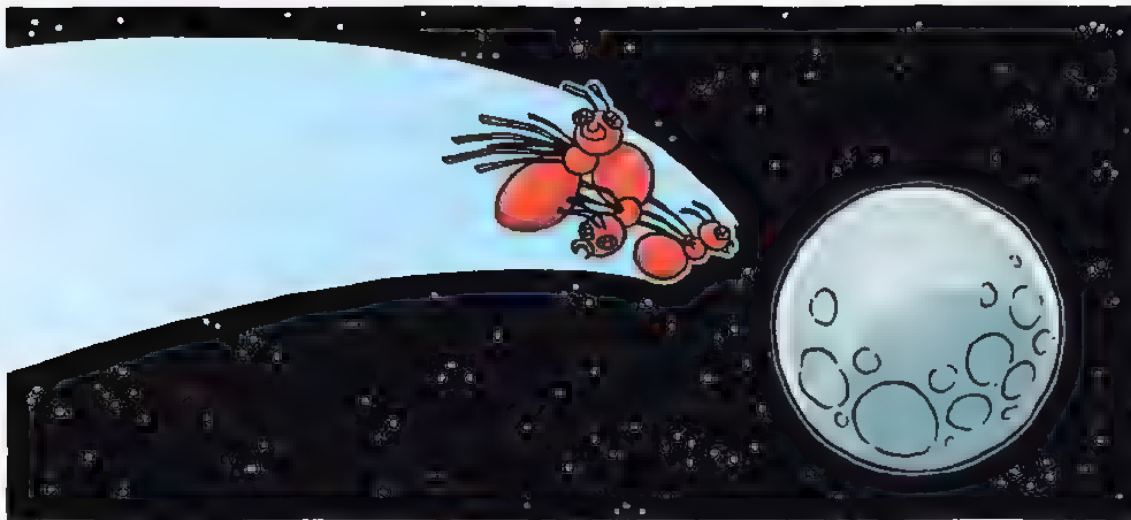


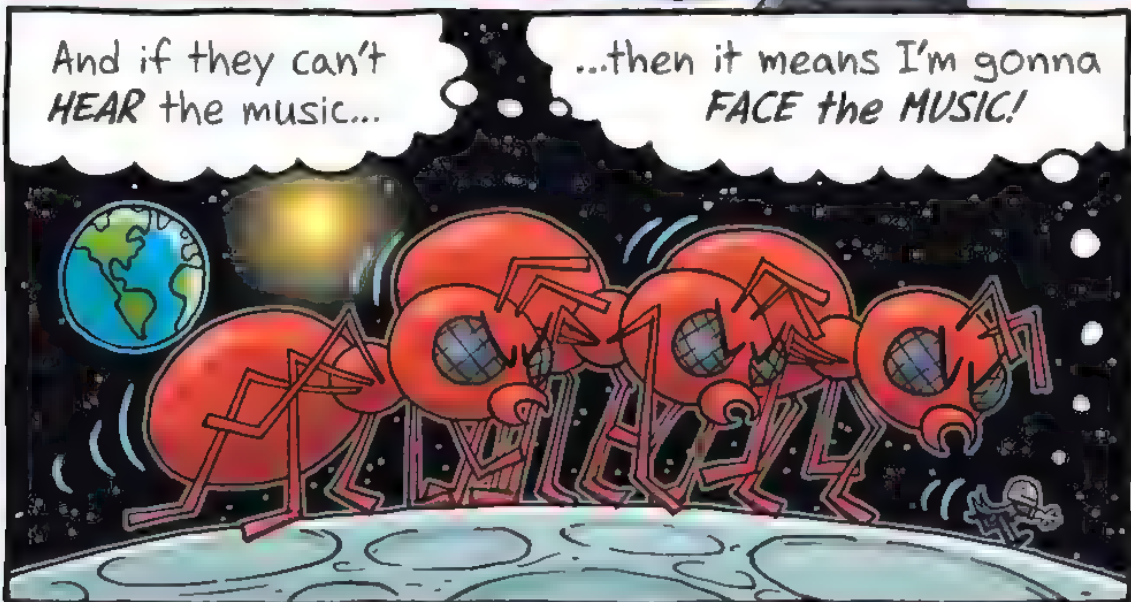
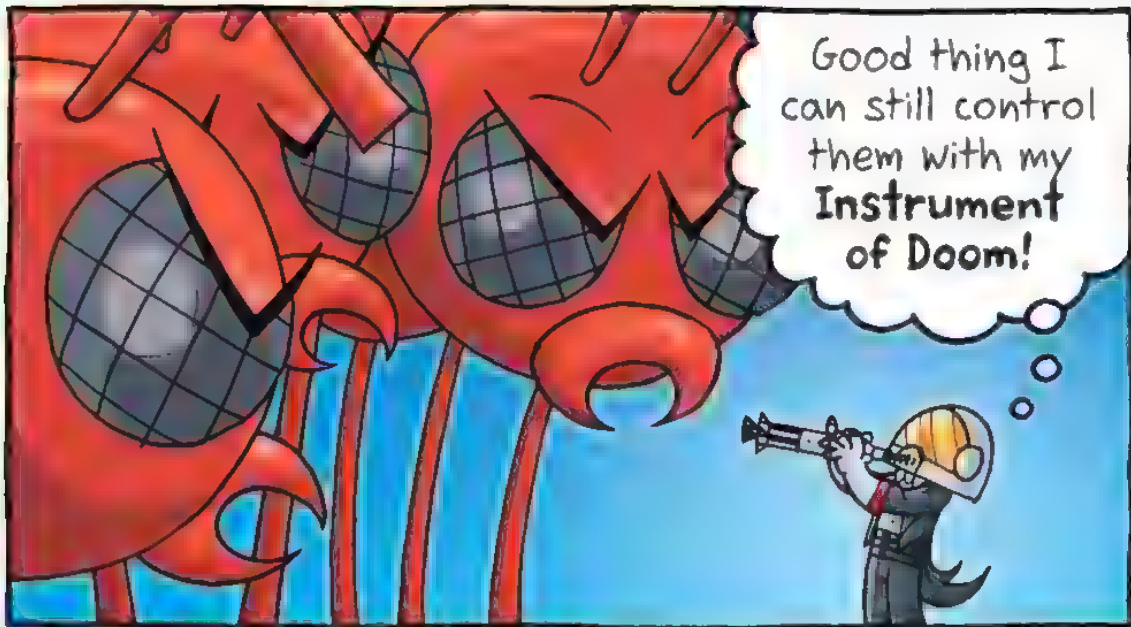




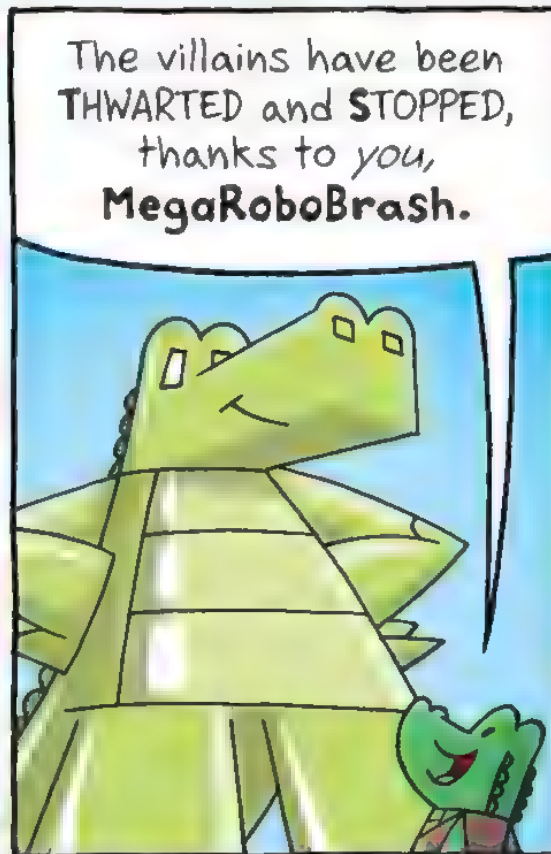
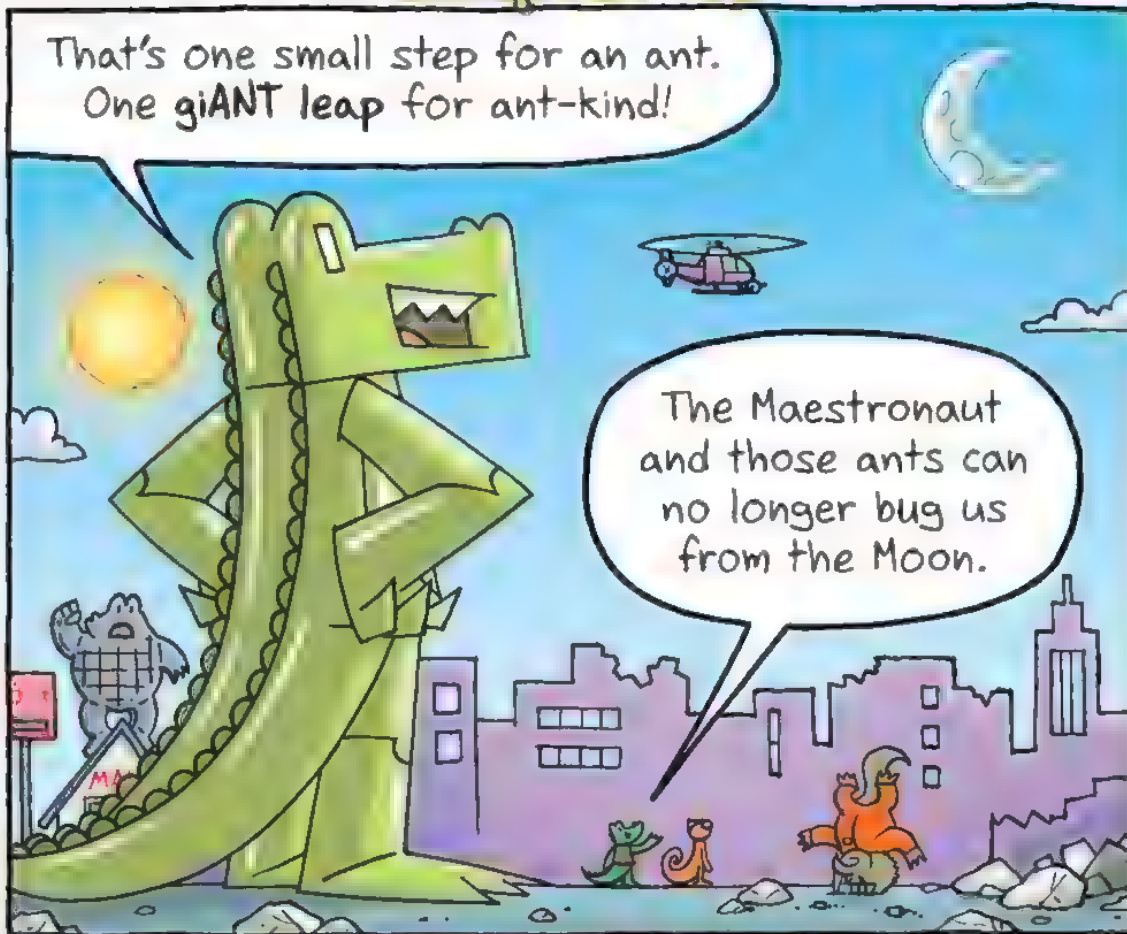




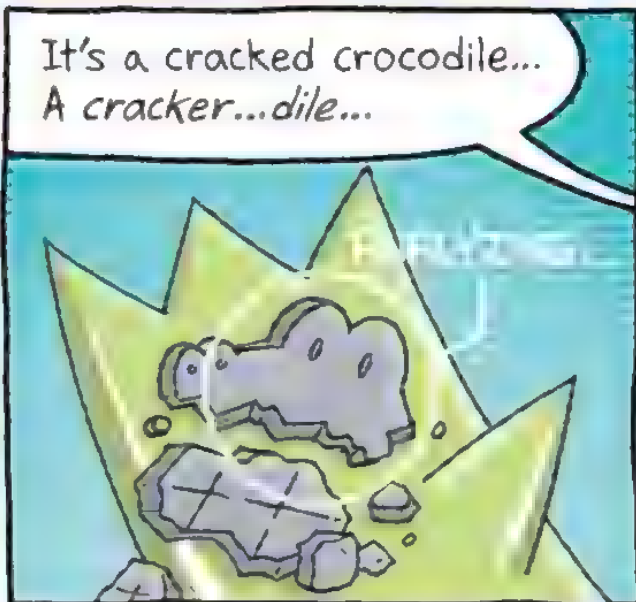
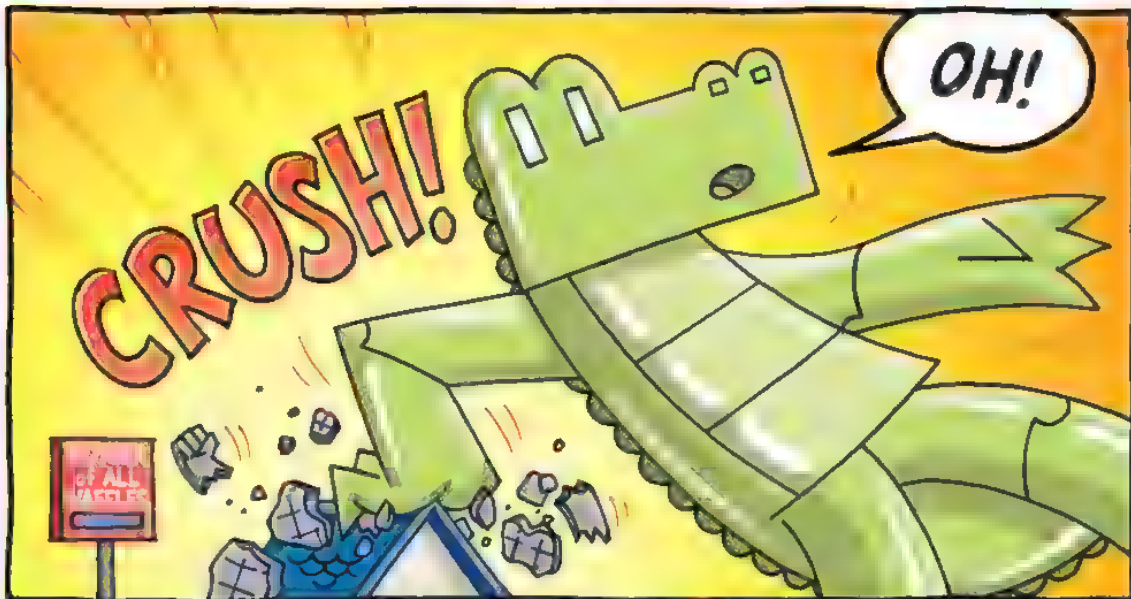


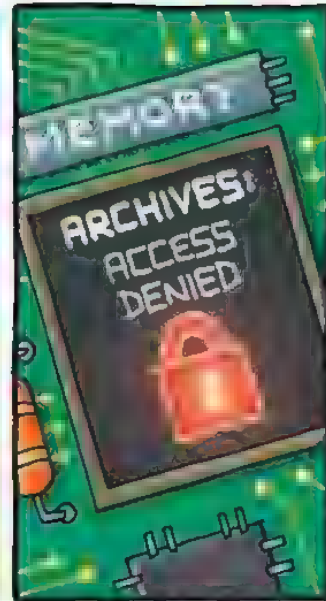
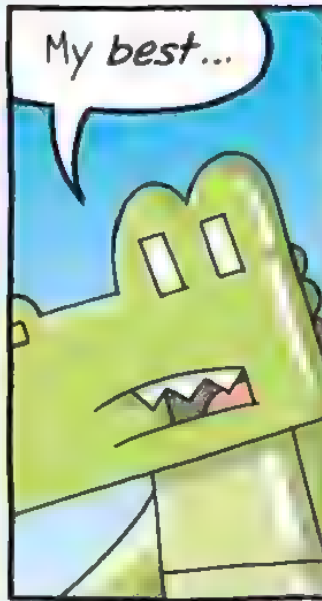


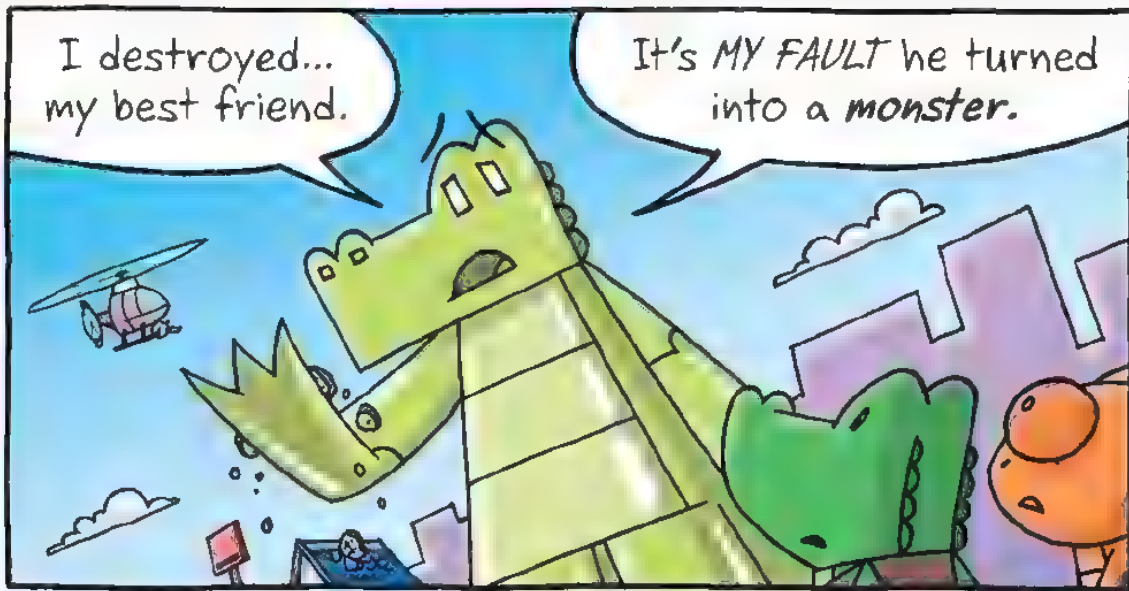
## Chapter 15



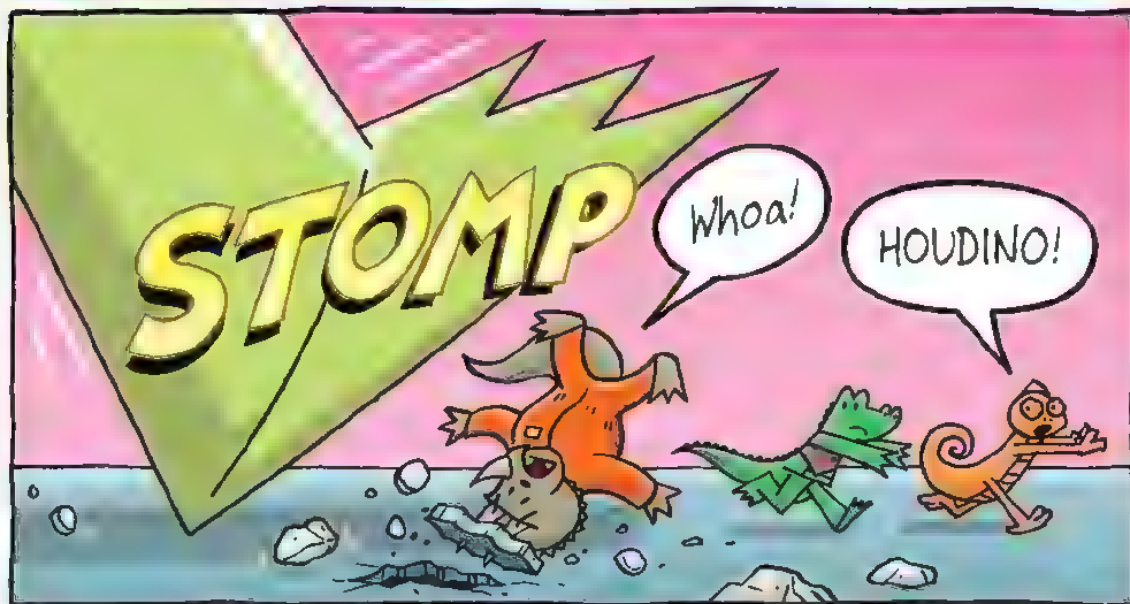
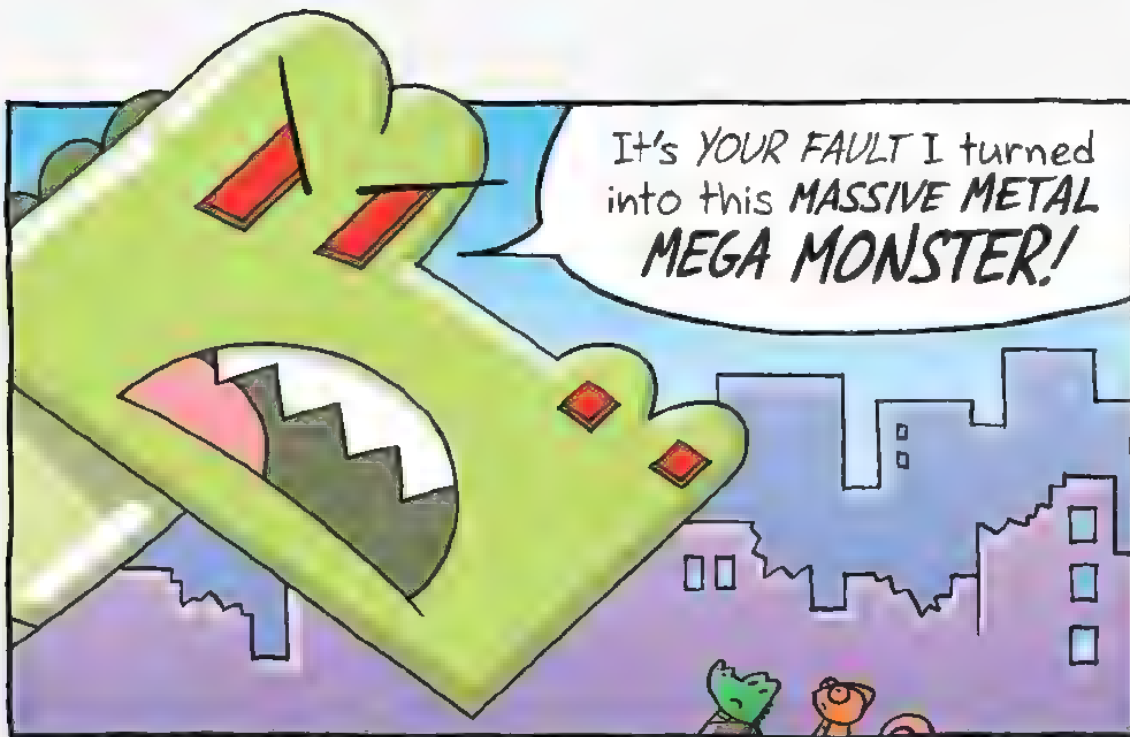


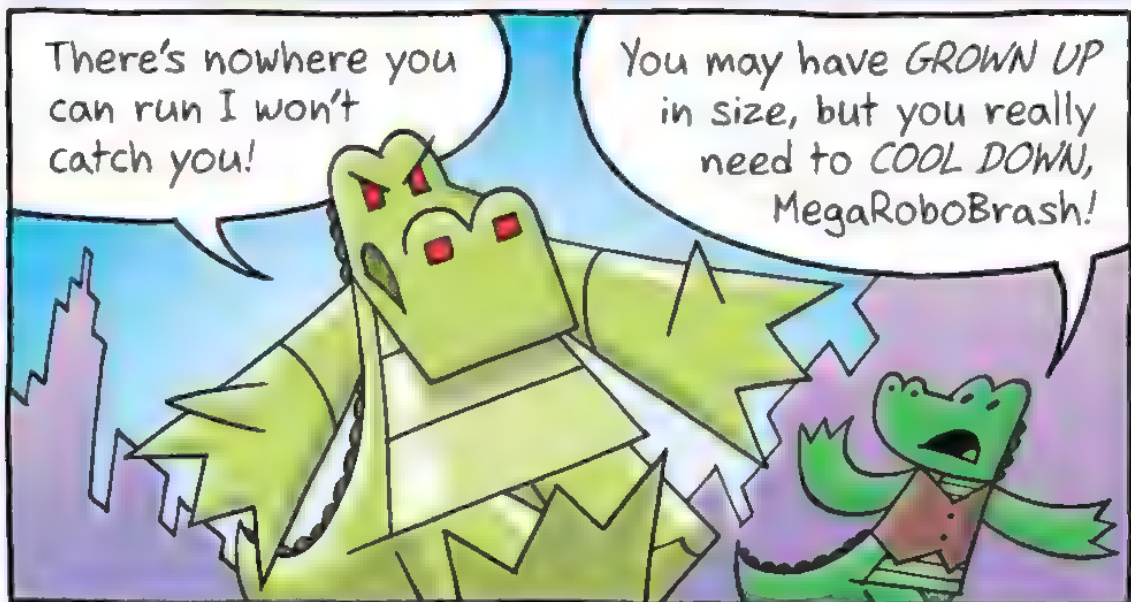


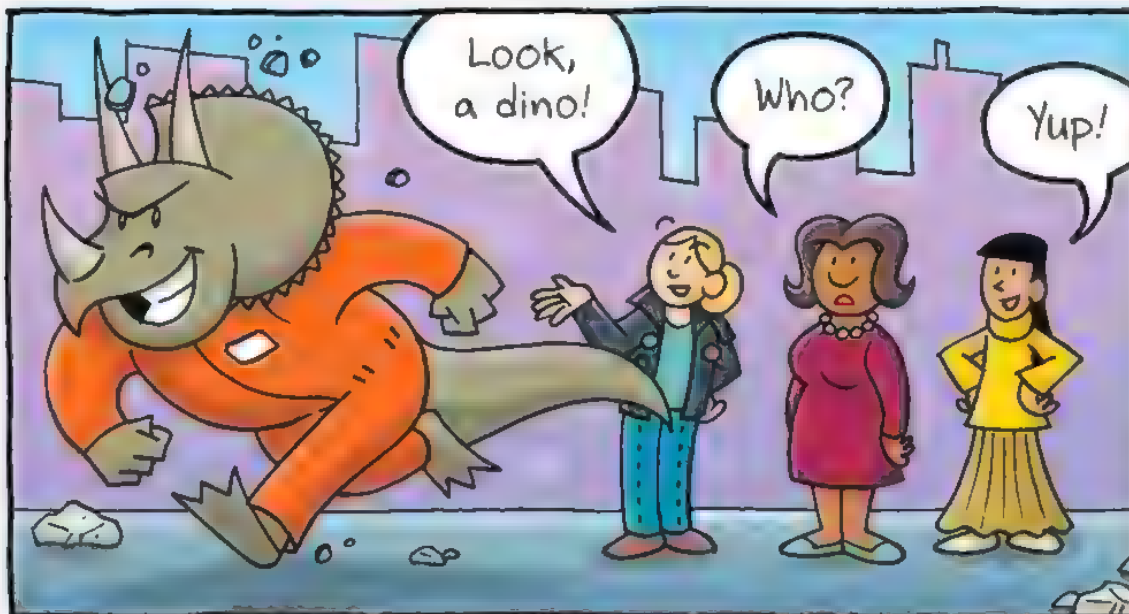












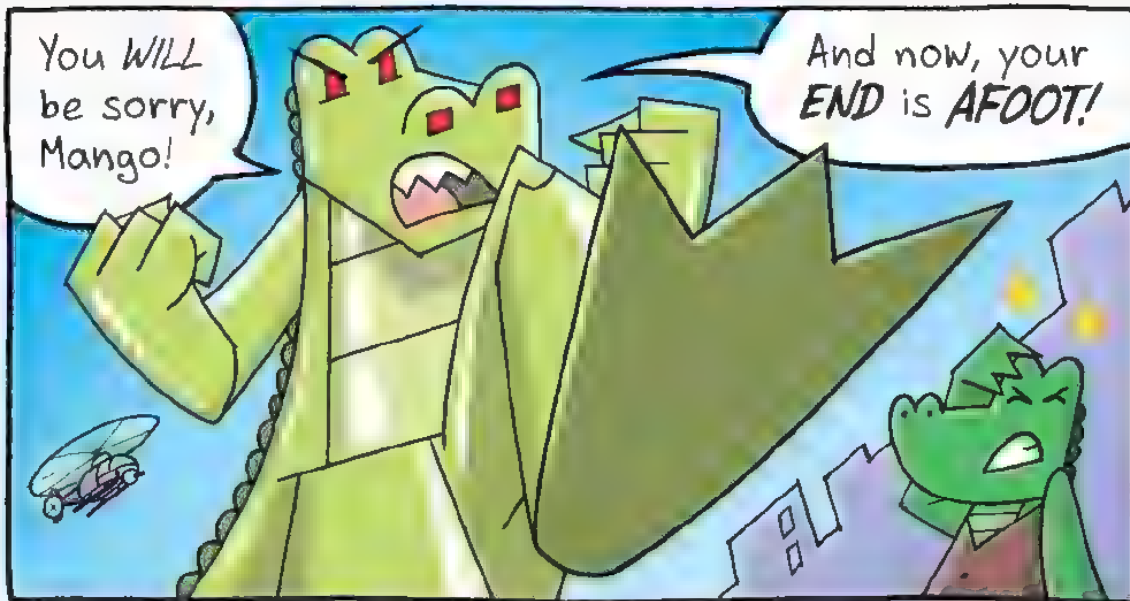


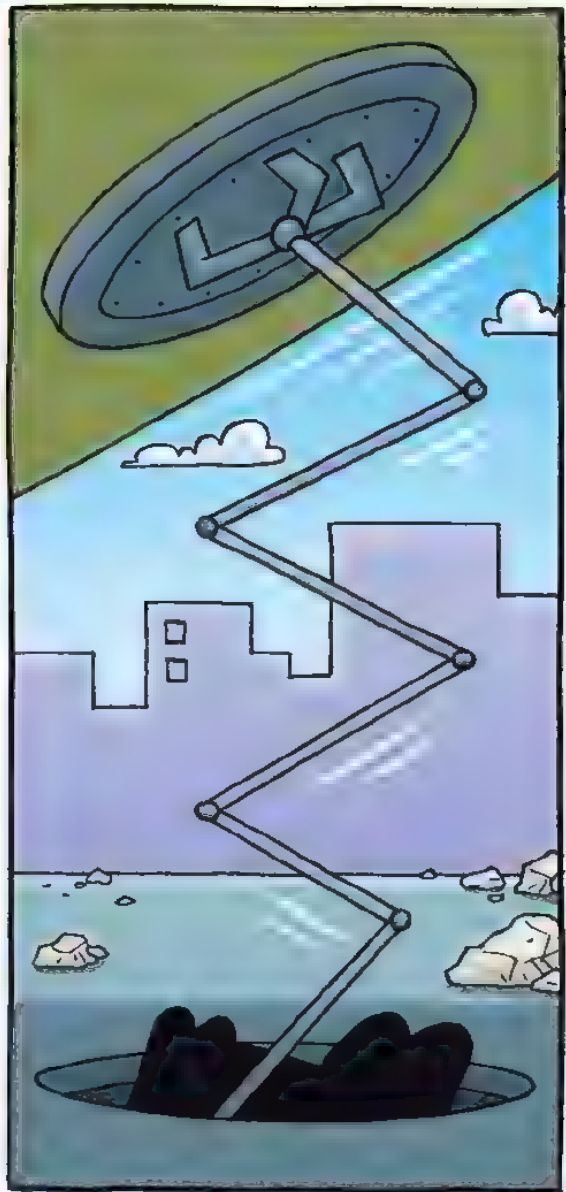


RoboBrash is experiencing the same *anger* that the real Brash feared would turn him into a *monster*! I need to convince RoboBrash to forgive me...

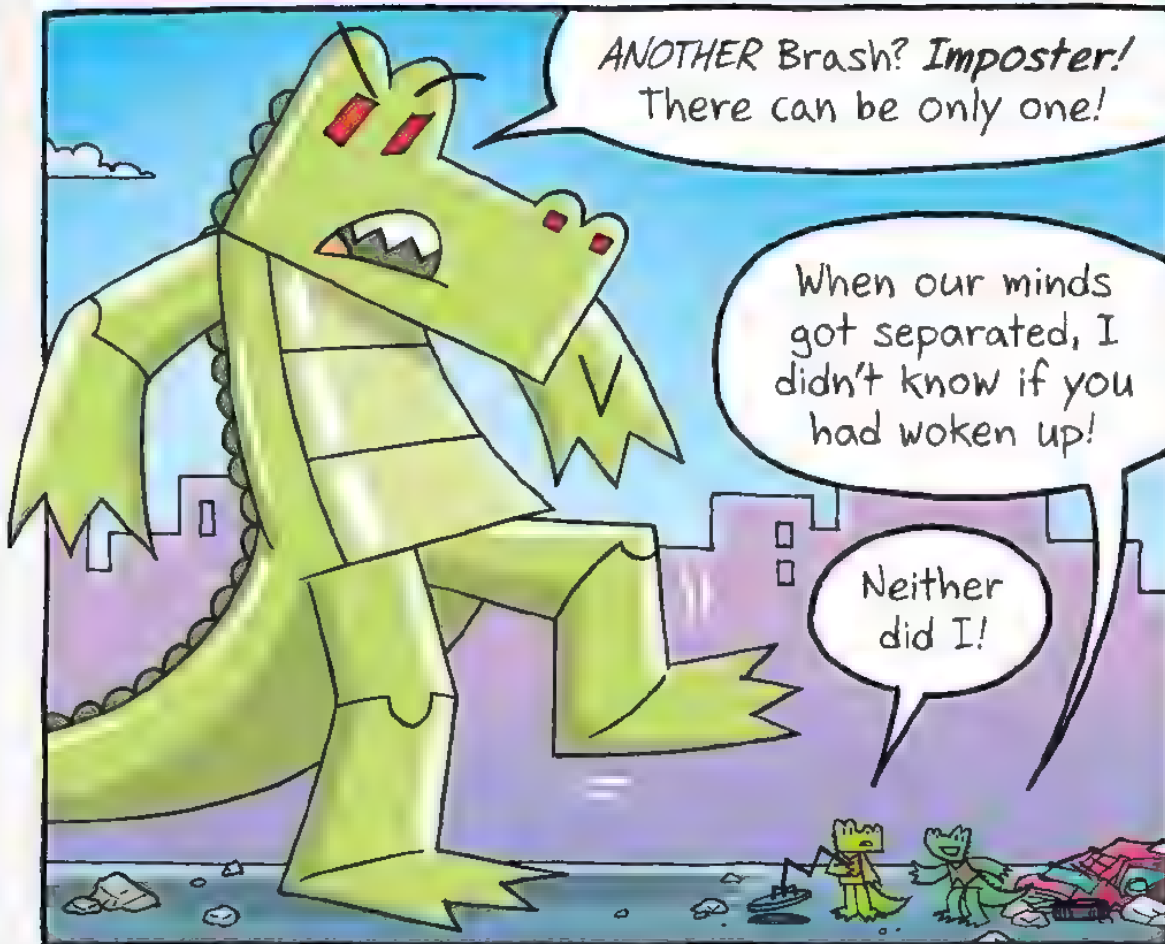
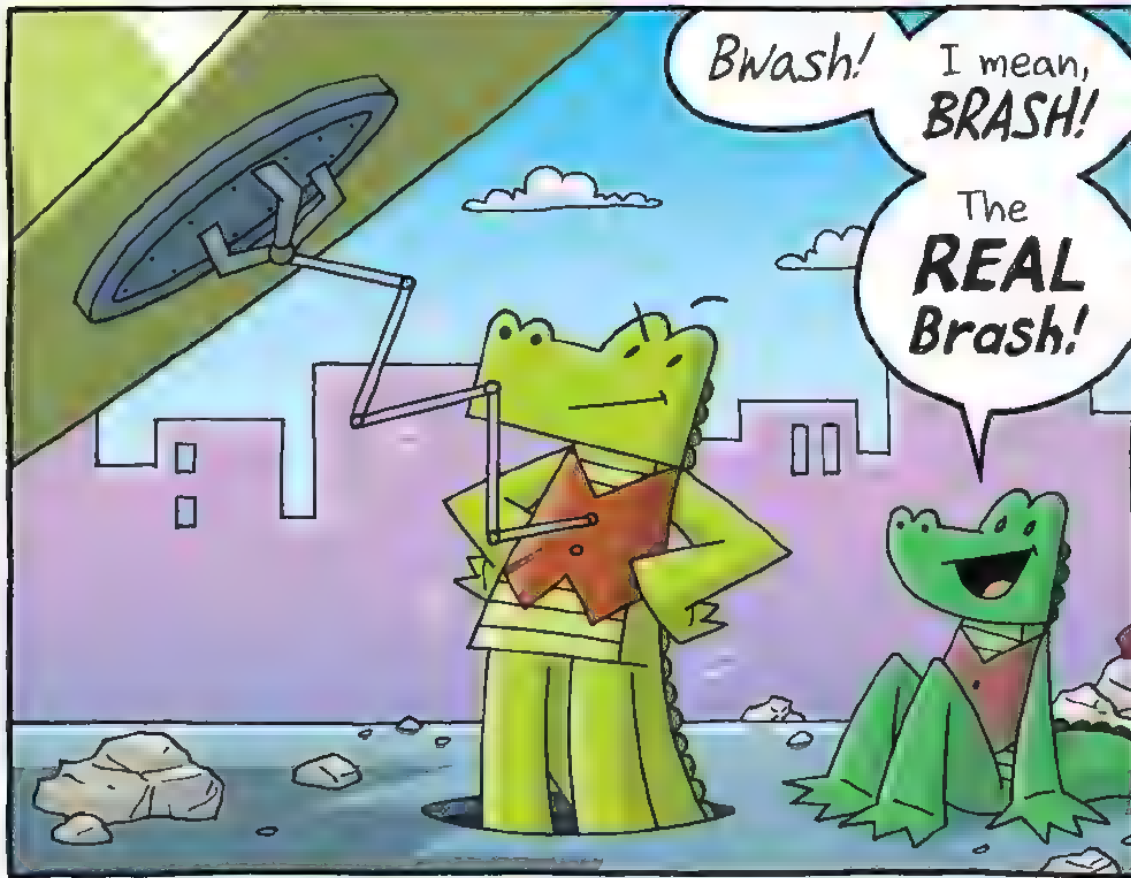
But from what I learned inside Brash's mind, he has to forgive *himself* first... Which means only *RoboBrash* can forgive *RoboBrash*!











Seeing **GIANT ANTS** trampling the city, I thought I was still stuck in a *nightmare*! But then I heard the General Inspector's message on this V.E.S.T., and I flushed myself into the sewer to get over here.



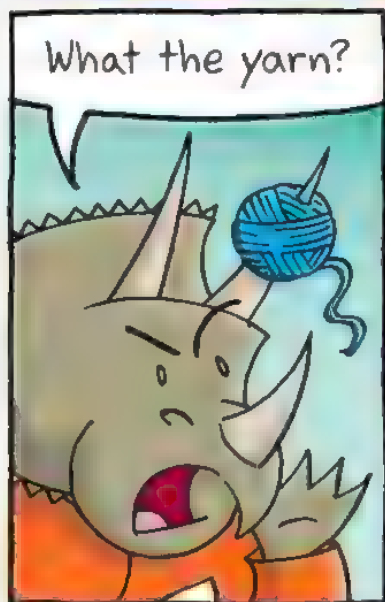
I know what this *OTHER BRASH* is... It represents my guilt and fear! *It must be destroyed!* And to destroy *this* Brash means to destroy a part of *myself*! Therefore, I must initiate... **SELF-DESTRUCT!**













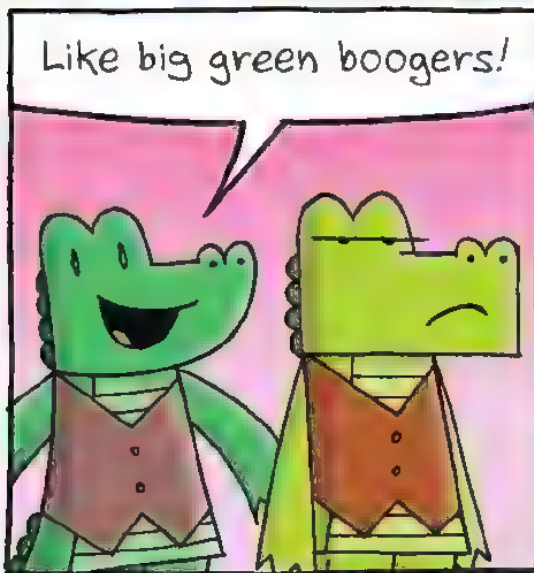




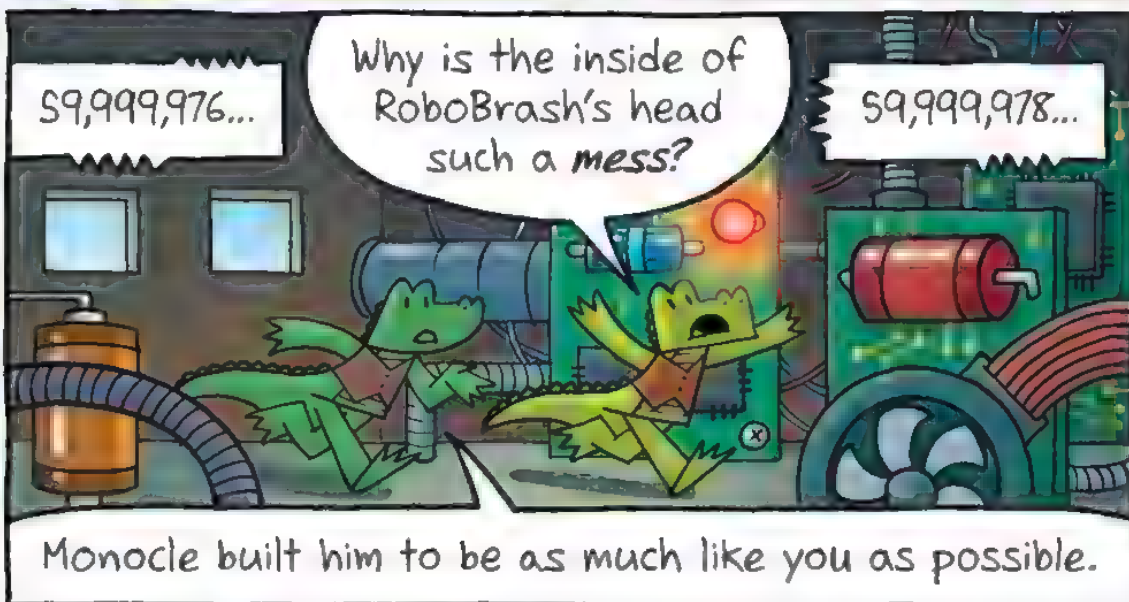
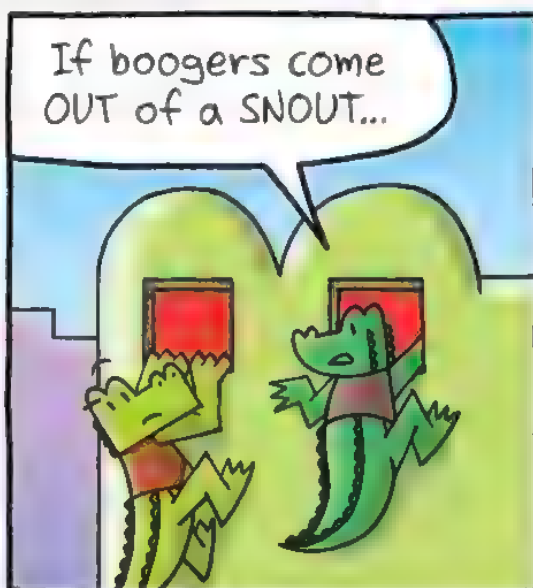
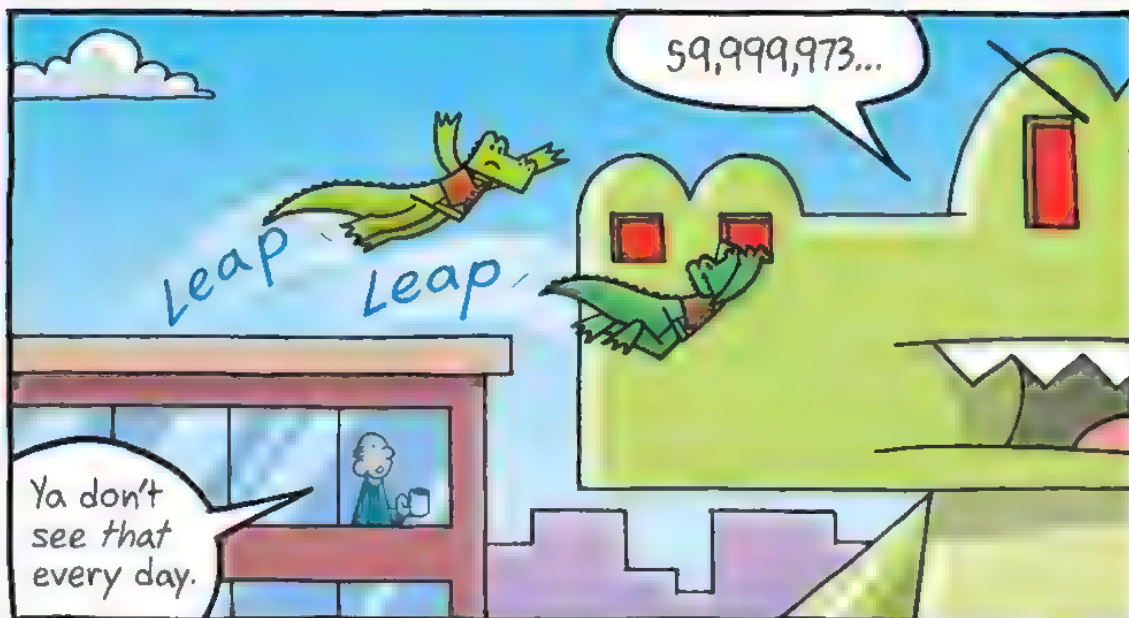




## Chapter 16



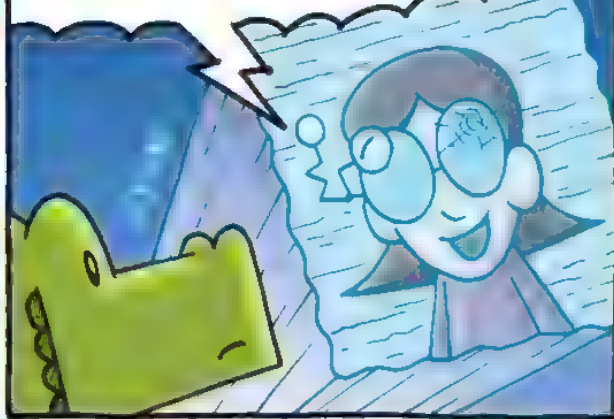




Gee, thanks, Monocle.  
WAIT—MONOCLE! Come  
in, Monocle!



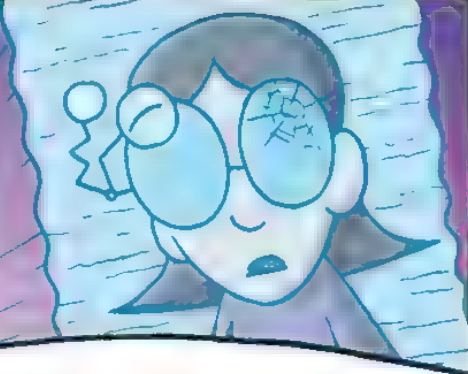
Brash! You're awake! You're  
no longer stuck inside  
your own head!



Yes and no. I'm inside  
**ROBOBRASH'S** head!



Monocle, RoboBrash  
has initiated a self-destruct  
countdown—I mean, countUP.  
How can we stop it?!

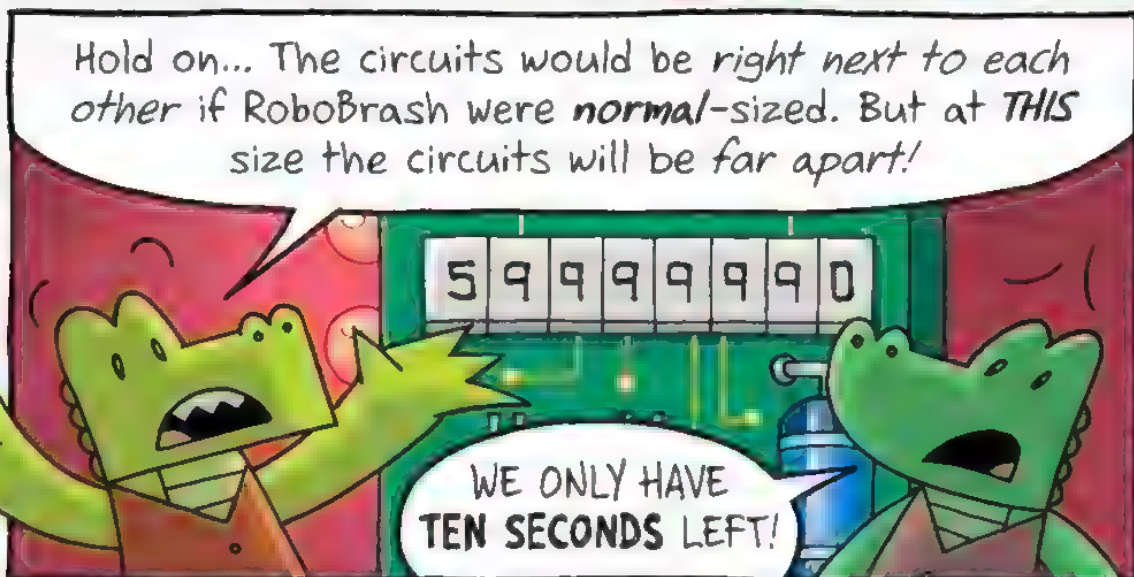
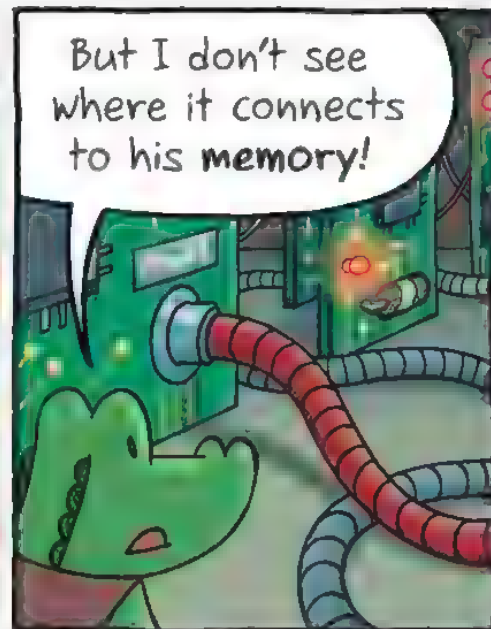
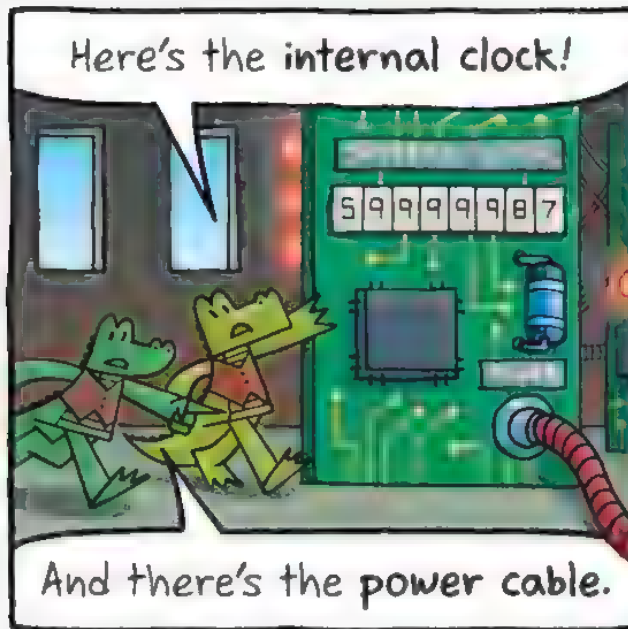


I was afraid of that! You need to disconnect the  
power cable from his **MEMORY** and his **INTERNAL  
CLOCK**. But you have to disconnect them at the  
**EXACT SAME TIME** or he'll blow up *instantly*!

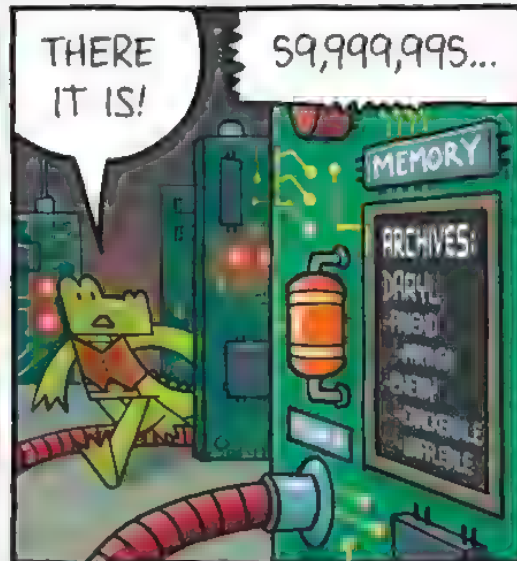
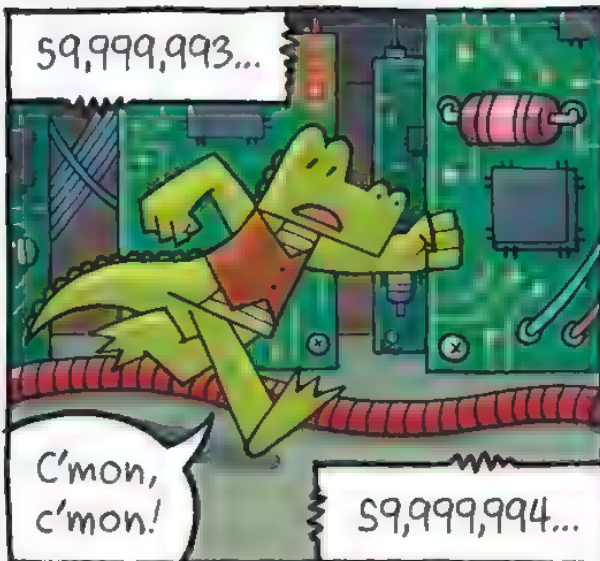
The circuits are  
right next to each  
other, so it should  
be easy-peasy.

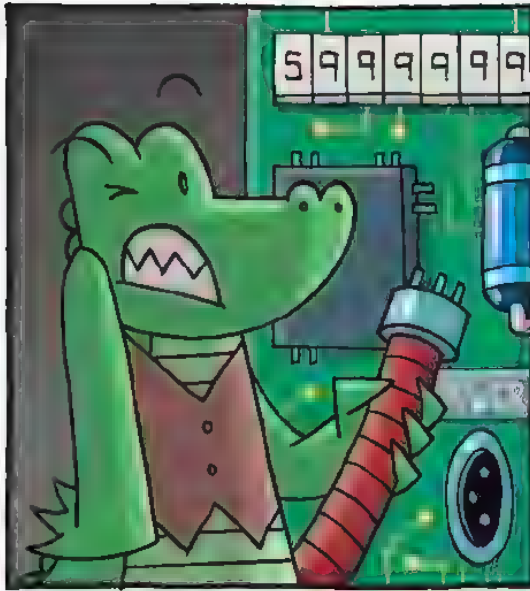
Thanks, Monocle!

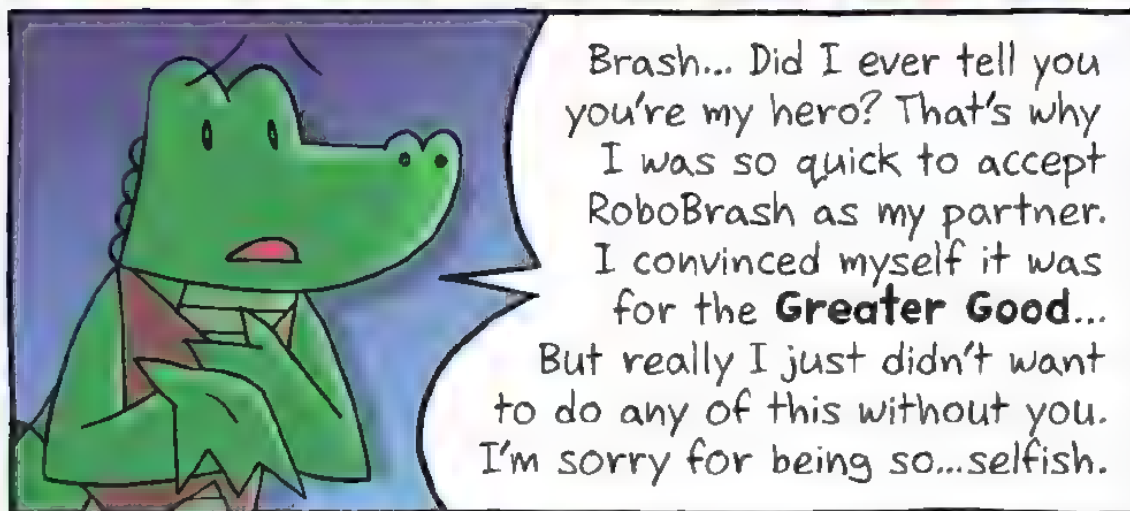
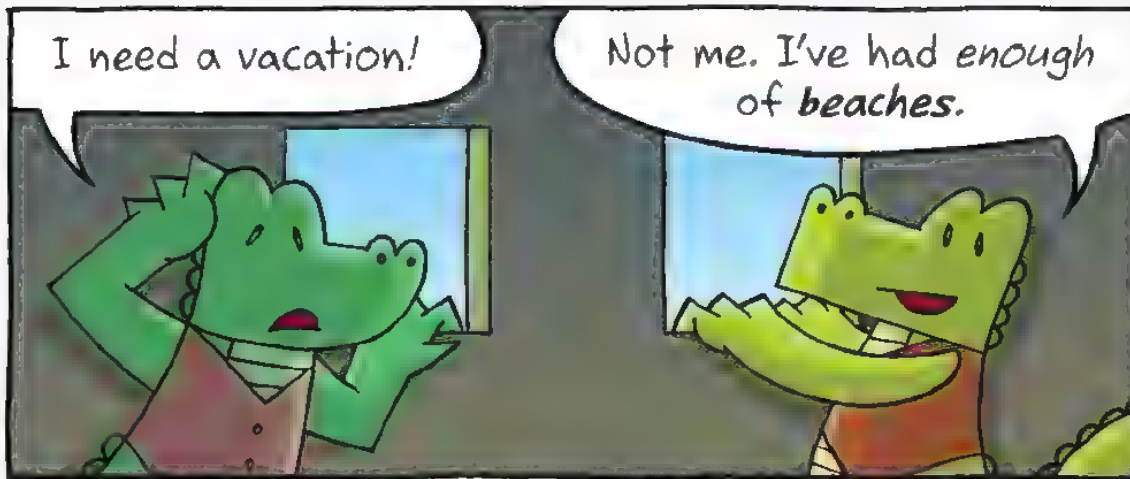






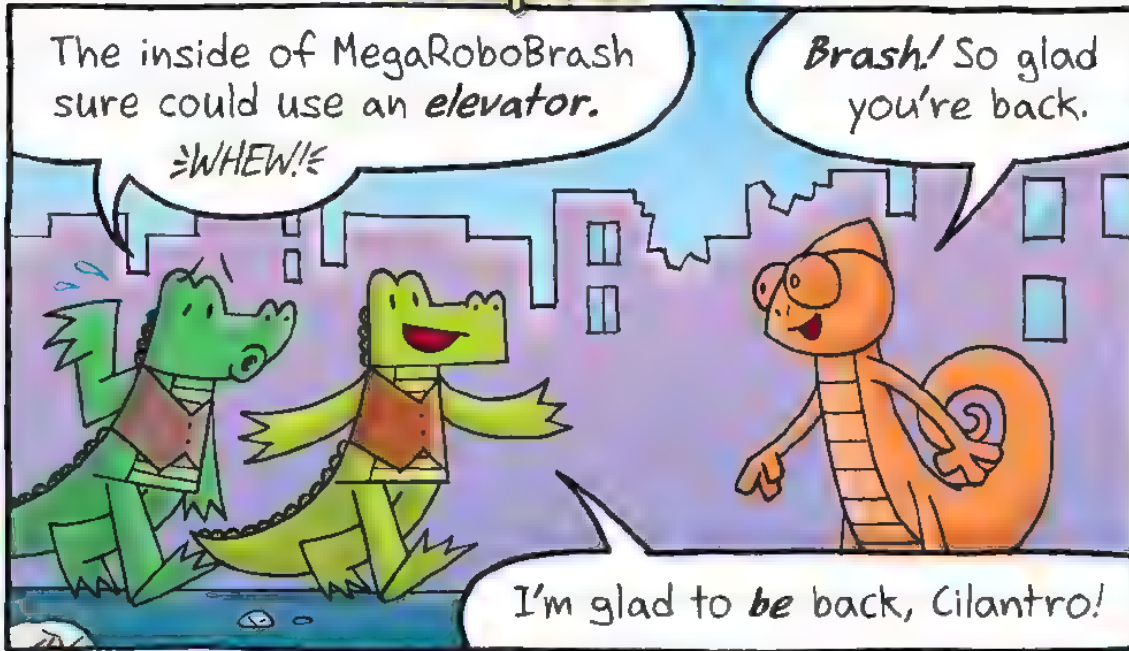








## Chapter 17



Sorry we're late. I may be a *superhero*, but I'm still an **OLD MAN**! I don't move quite as fast as I used to.



Now, who needs a poppin' and a lockin'?

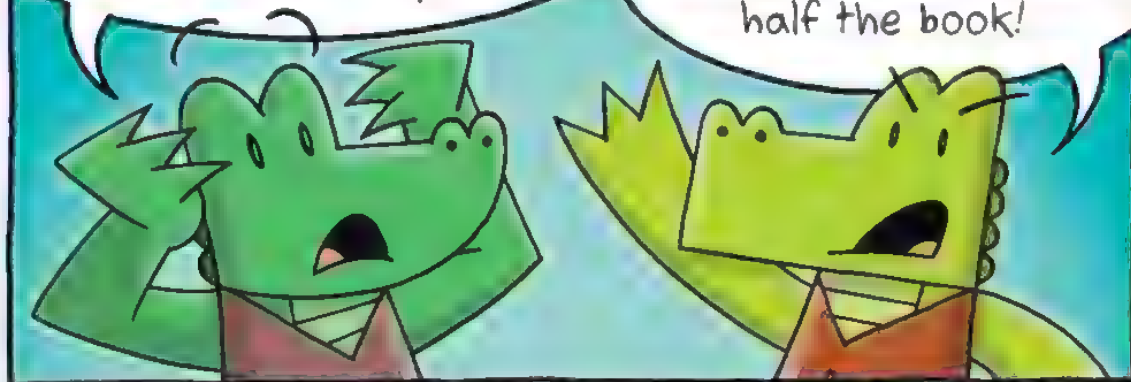


Well, Houdino's caught and the Maestronaut is on the Moon—



The who?

**BRASH!** Don't tell me you're having memory problems again already?!

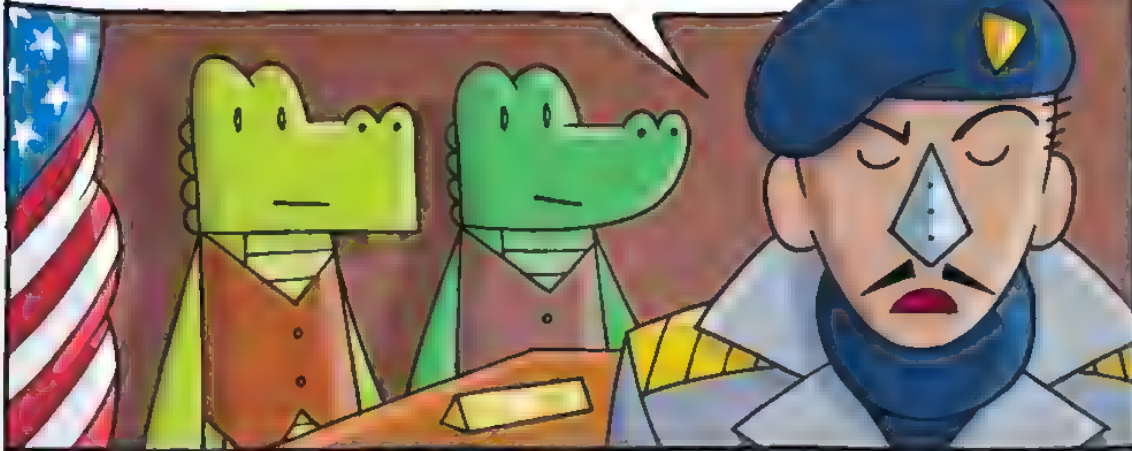


Mango, that was **RoboBrash**. I've been asleep for more than half the book!





And so, for *ANSWERING* the call of duty, recapturing Houdino, and helping save the city...



...I hereby promote you to *FIELD AGENT*.  
Congratulations, **Agent Cilantro**.



Thank you,  
General  
Inspector!



Sorry if I sounded angry  
in my message. I can get  
a little overdramatic.





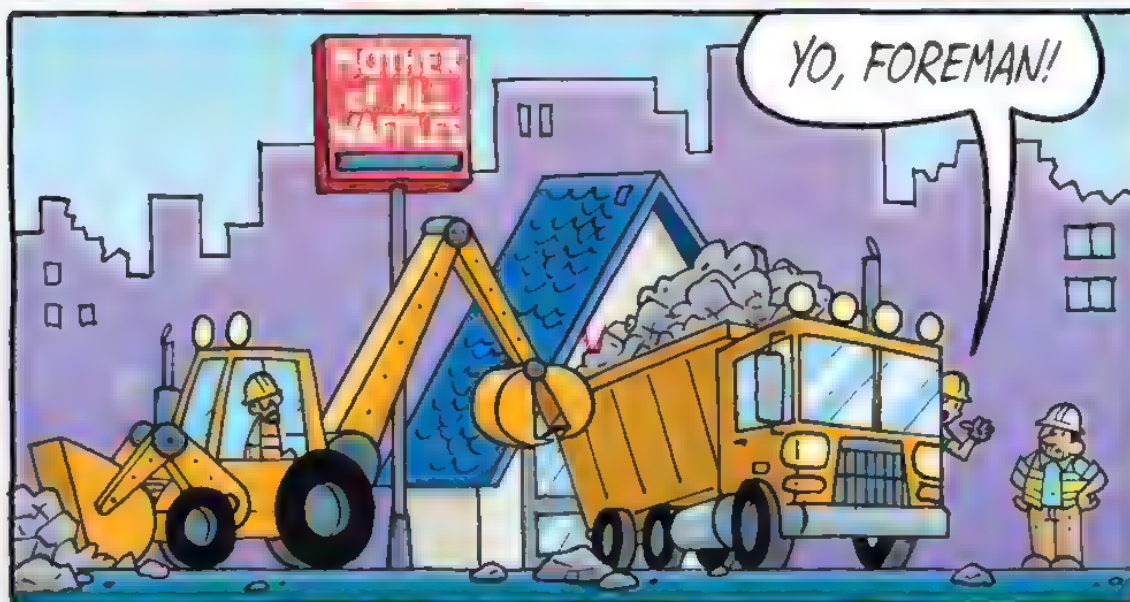
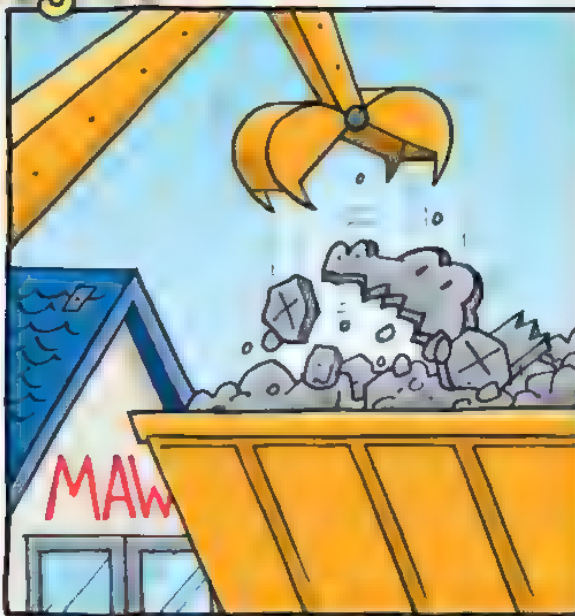


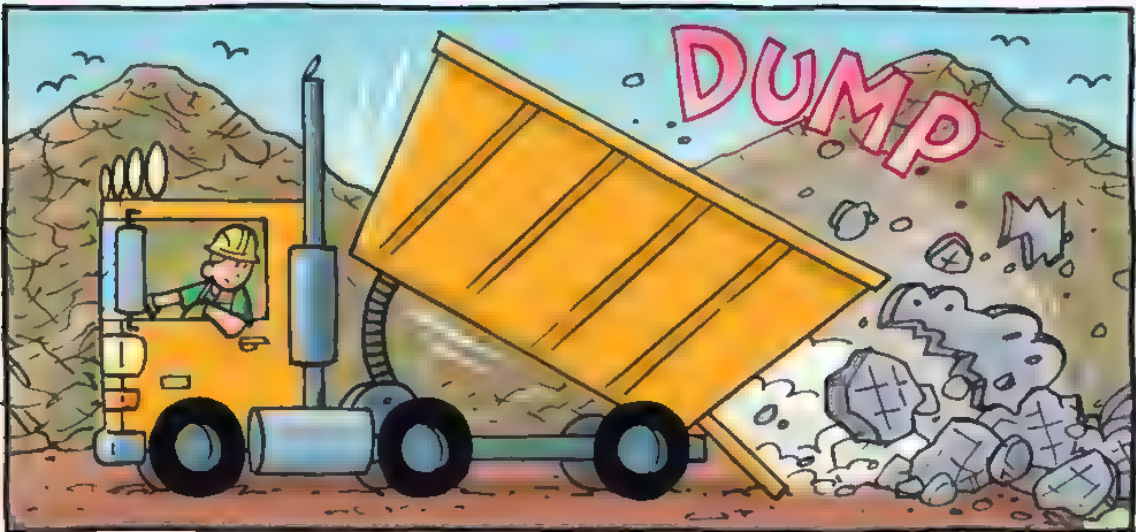
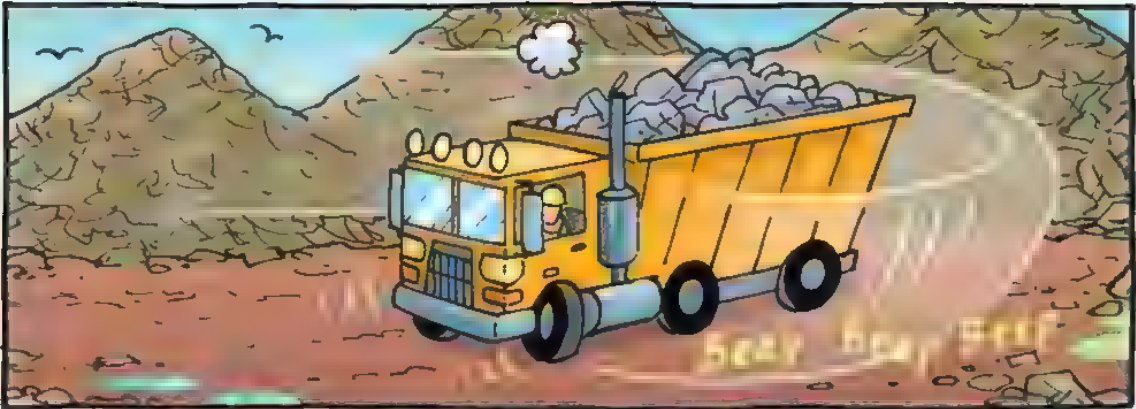
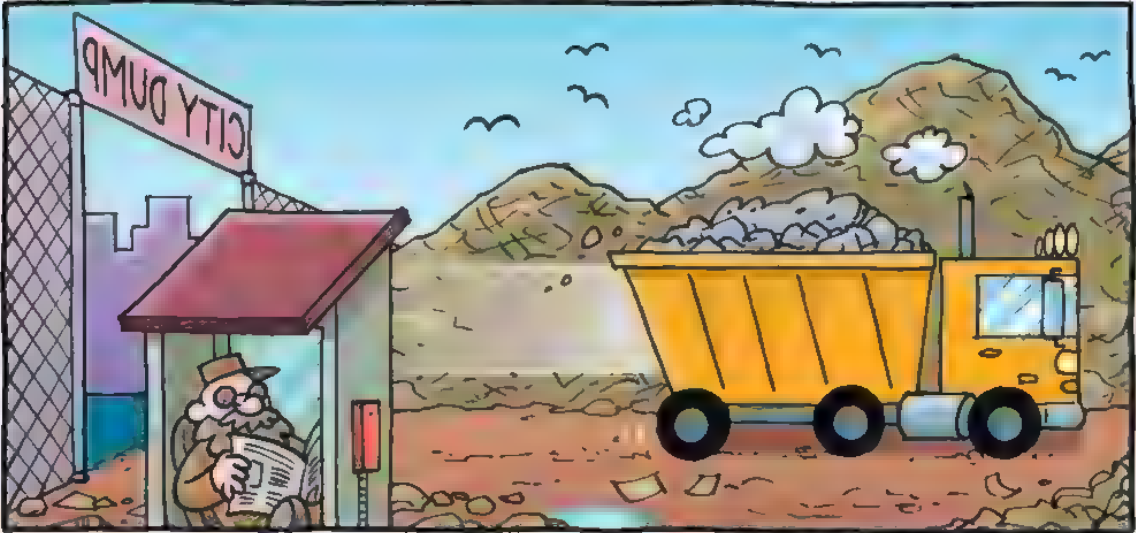
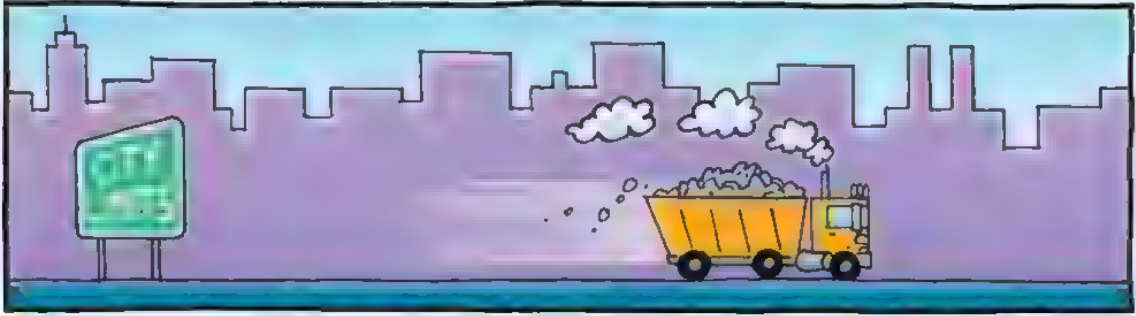




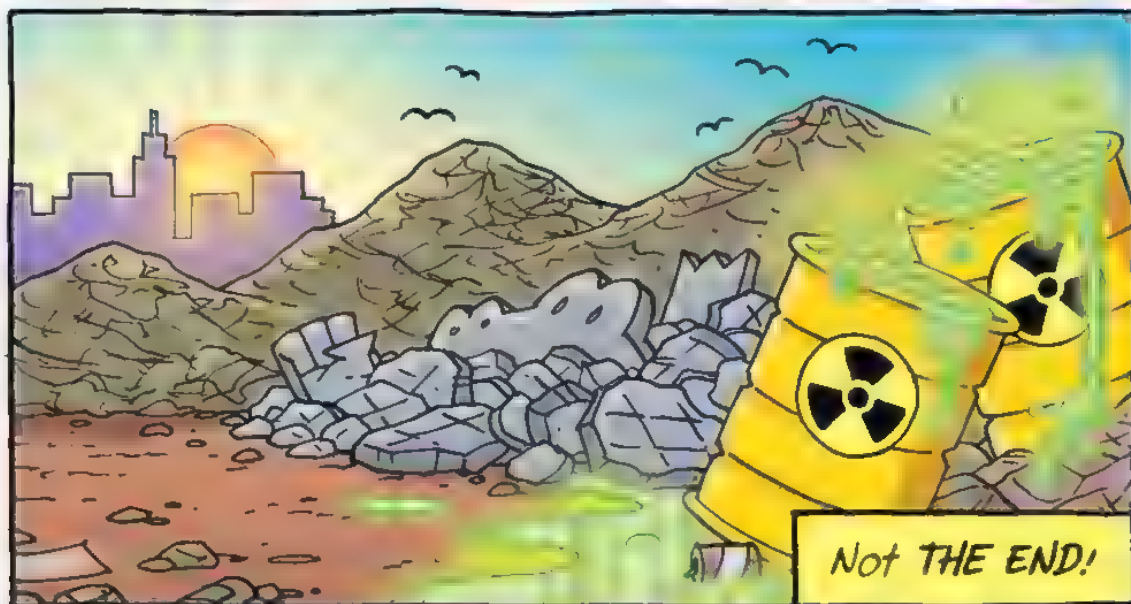
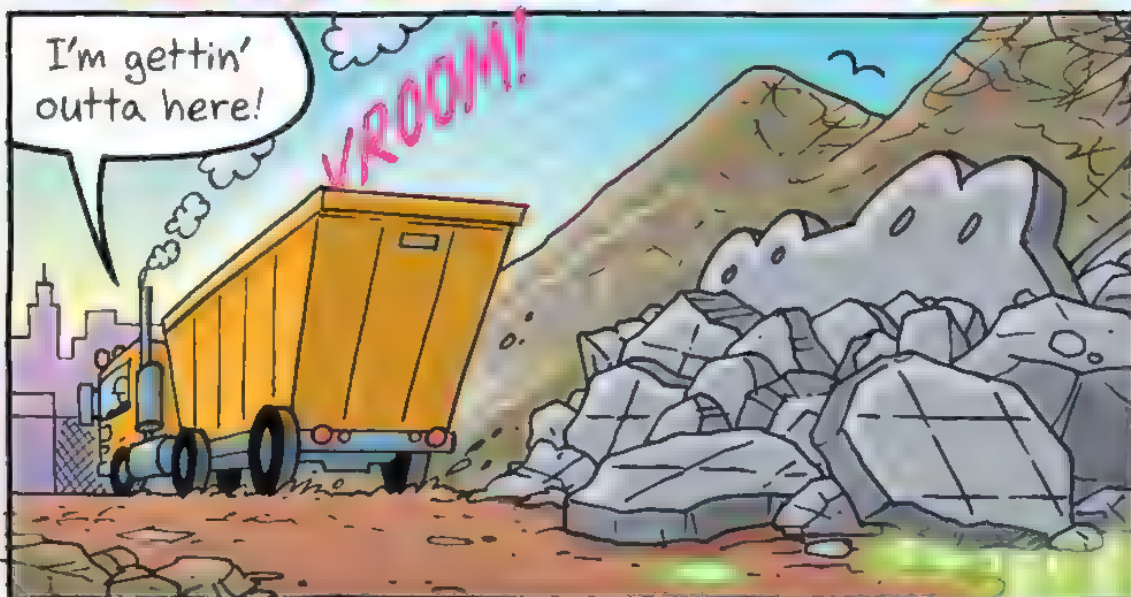
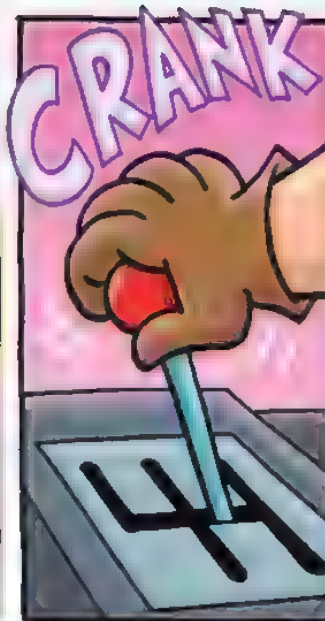


## Epilogue





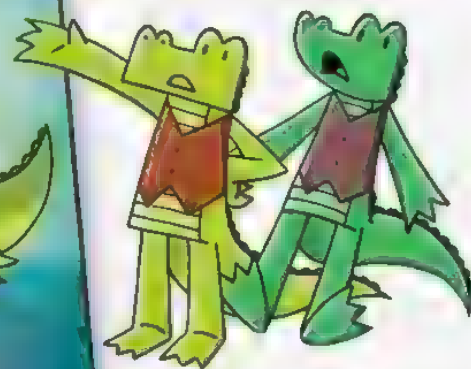




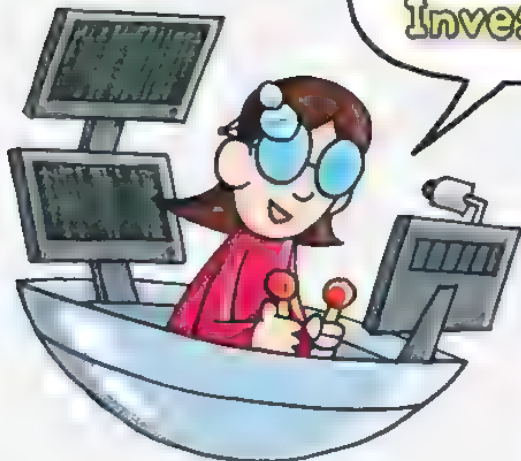
Watch the skies for  
MANGO and BRASH's  
next exciting mystery!



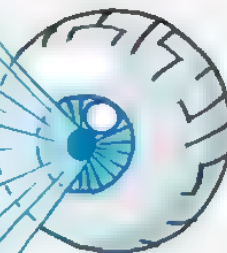
COMING  
SOON!



For more GATOR fun, check out  
[InvestiGatorsBooks.com](http://InvestiGatorsBooks.com)

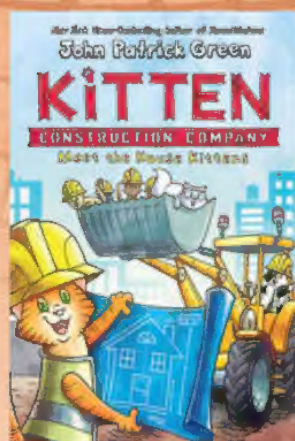
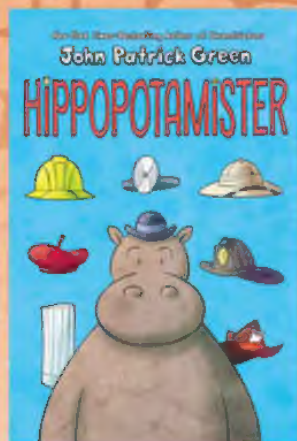


- Case Files
- Character Bios
- Puzzles & Games
- Art Activities
- Videos & Music
- and MORE!





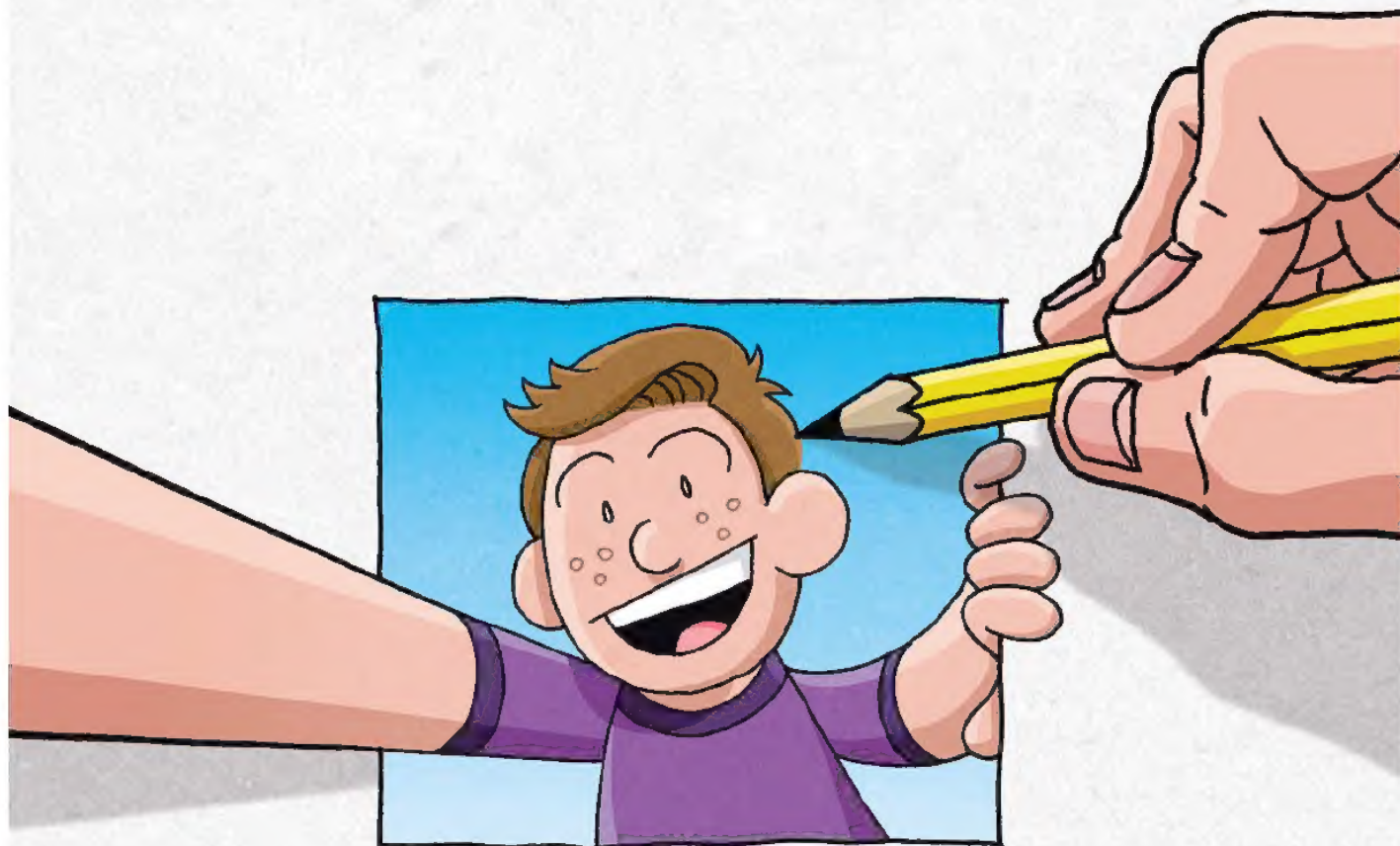
# Read the John Patrick Green Collection!



:01

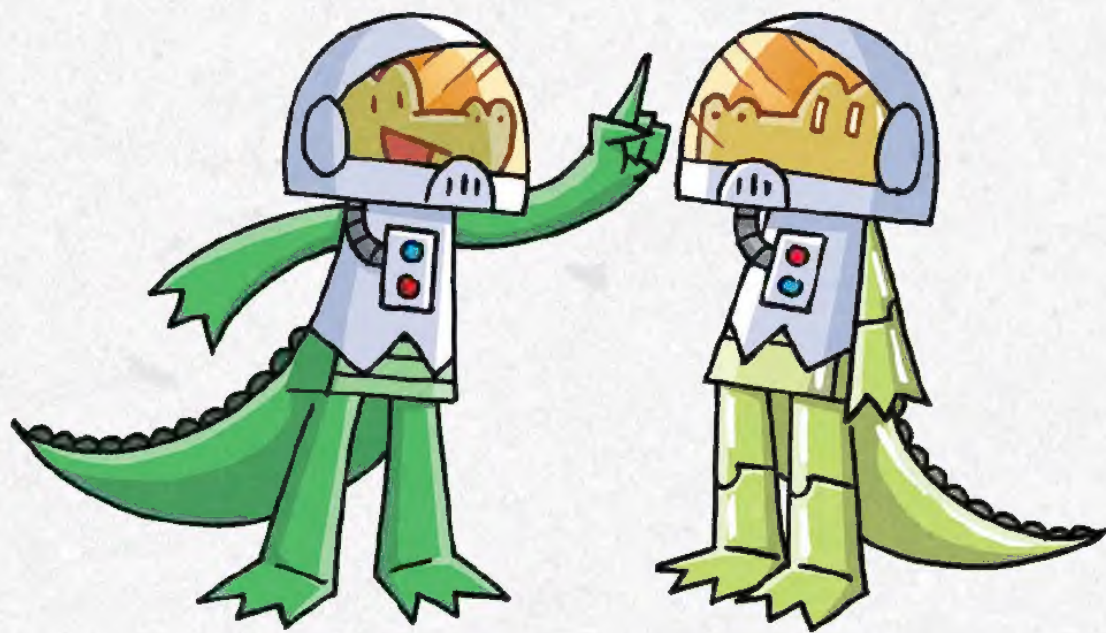
First Second  
firstsecondbooks.com





# Investi GATORS

Ants in Our P.A.N.T.S.



written and illustrated by  
**John Patrick Green**

with color by Wes Dzioba



First Second  
New York



Praise for *InvestiGators*  
"A sugar rush manifested as a graphic novel."

—Kirkus Reviews

## A change of S.U.I.T.\* for the InvestiGators?

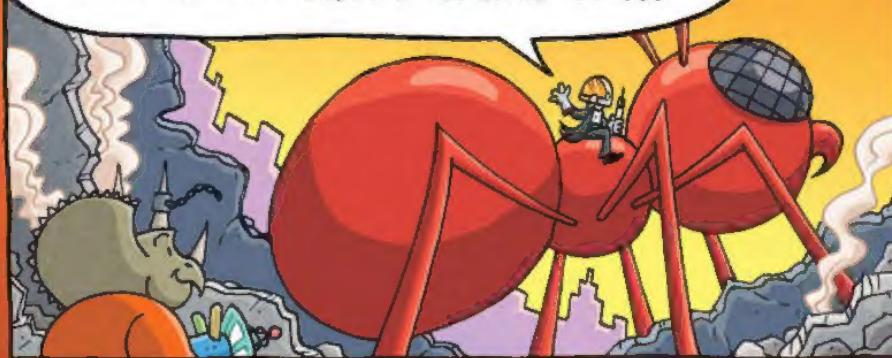
Mango and RoboBrash, as S.U.I.T.'s top agents, you will be the first team to try out P.A.N.T.S. in the field.



\*Special Undercover Investigation Team

## Criminals these days are truly bugging out!

Let us go forth and conquer this city with our *OMU* **ANTY** Crime Unit!



Can Mango and Brash exterminate the city's gi-ANT problem?

UP THE ANT-Y  
WITH THE  
WHOLE SERIES!



Cover art © 2021 by John Patrick Green

Cover design by John Patrick Green and Molly Johanson

:01

First Second  
New York

